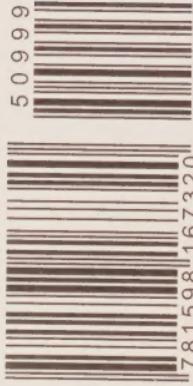


my cat LOKI



BETTINA KURKOSKI

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50999

my cat **LOKI**

Volume 2

Story and Art by
Bettina M. Kurkoski



HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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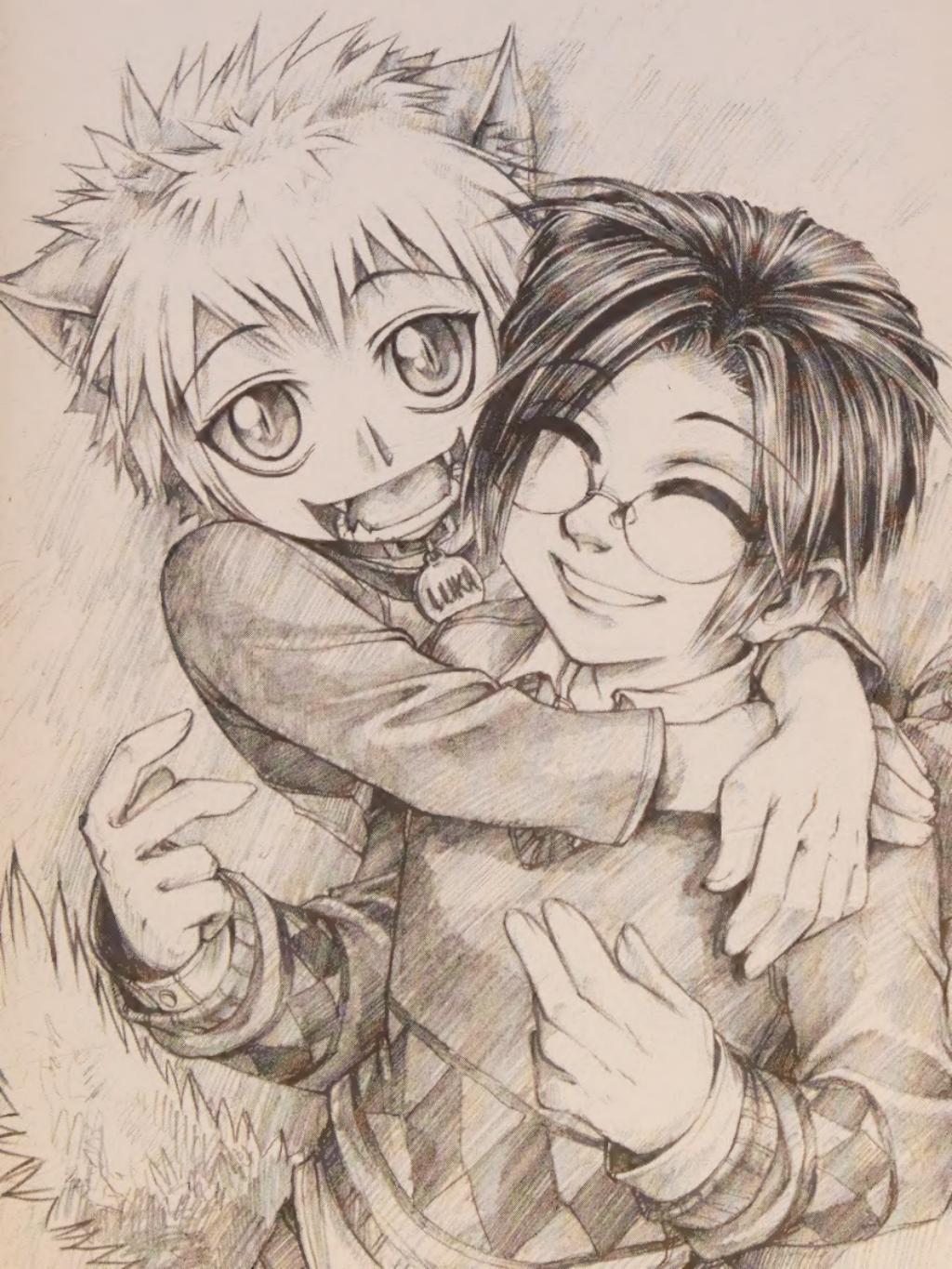
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CHAPTER 1







LOKI!
THE TEA IS
READY!

I'M GONNA
START THE
MOVIE!

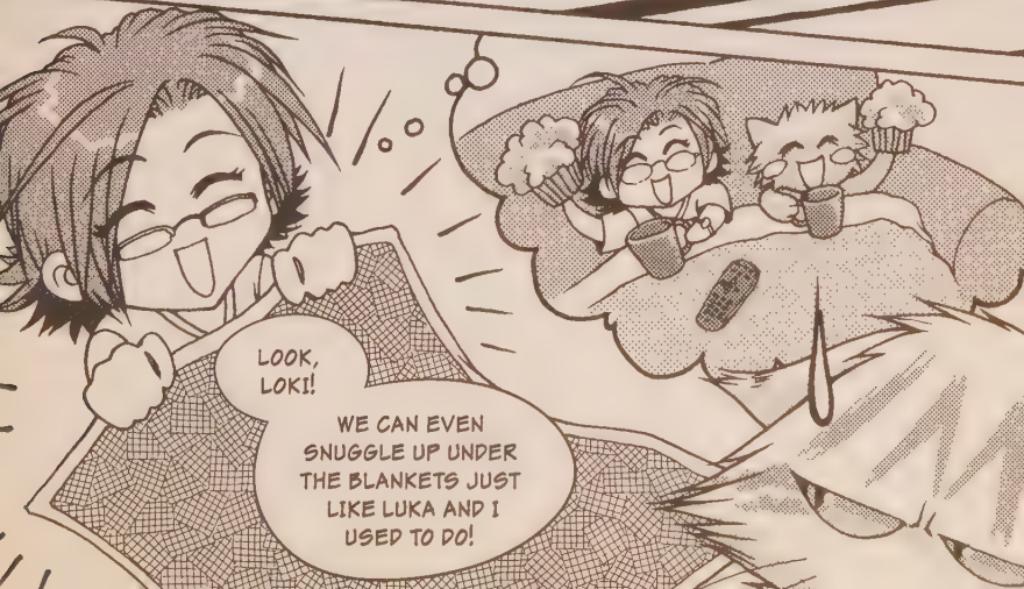
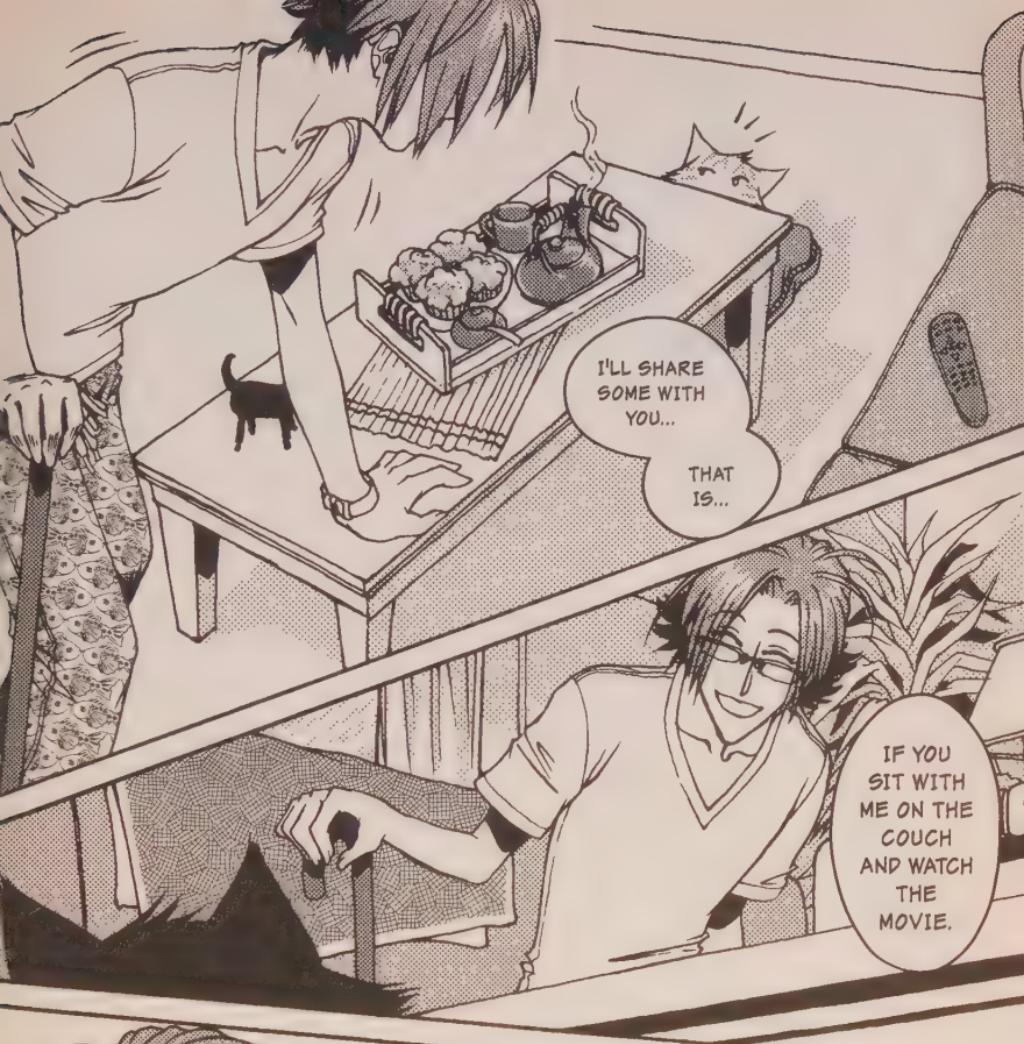


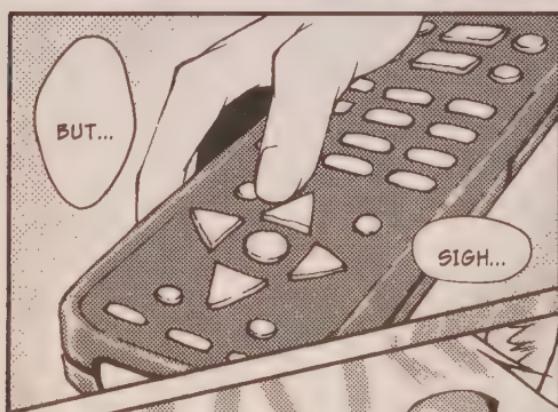
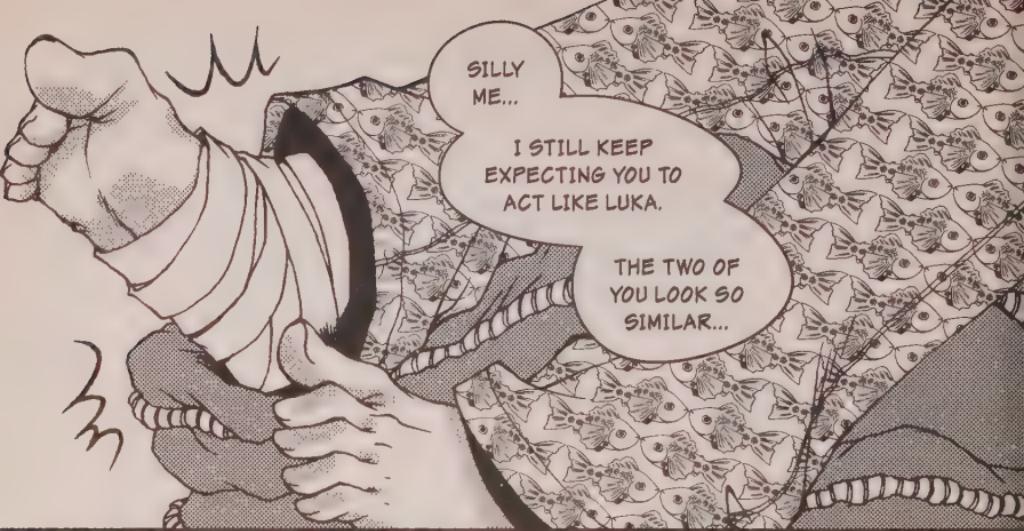
I EVEN
BAKED FRESH
BANANA
MUFFINS.

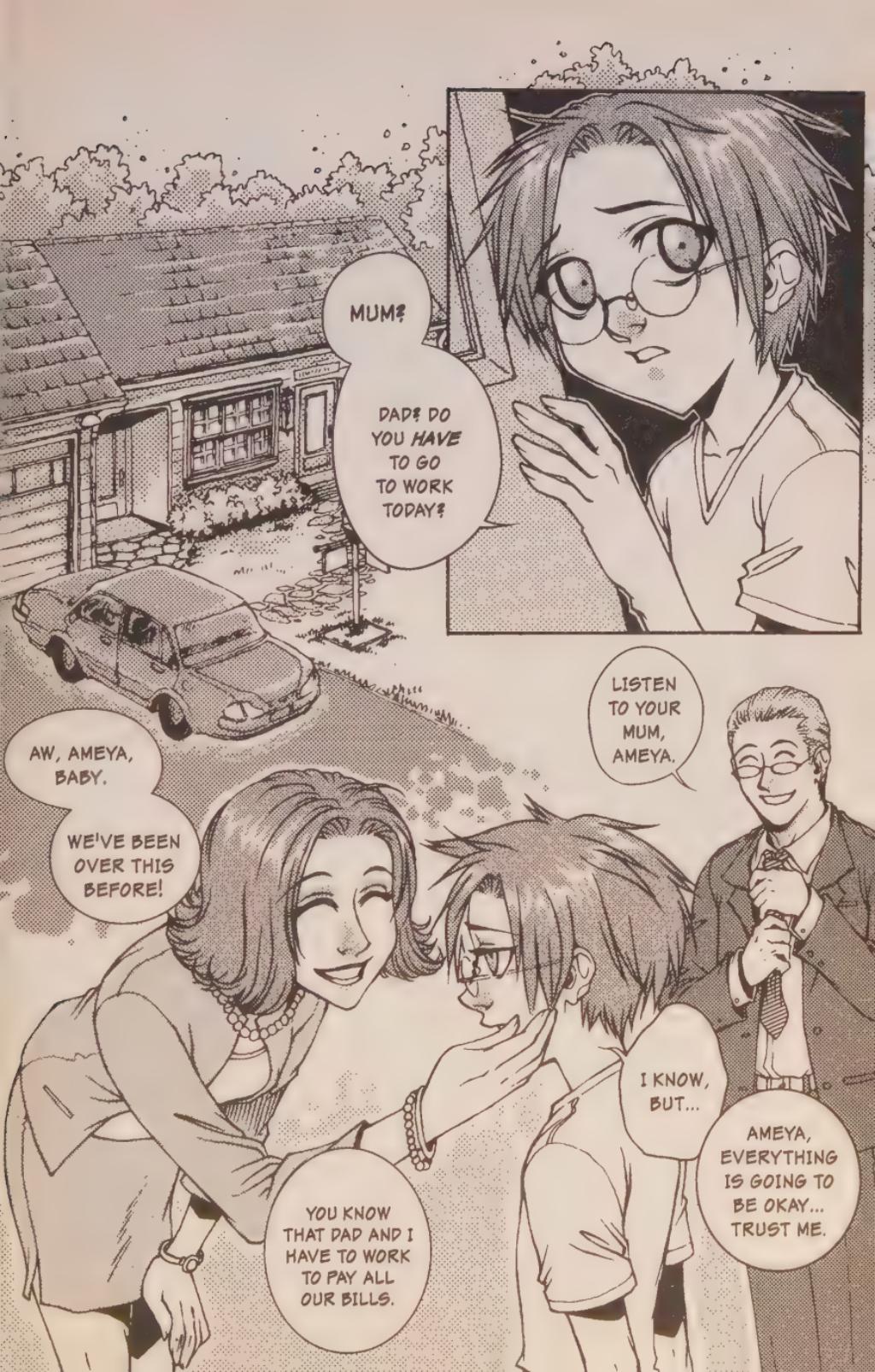
YOU
LOVED THE
PANCAKES...

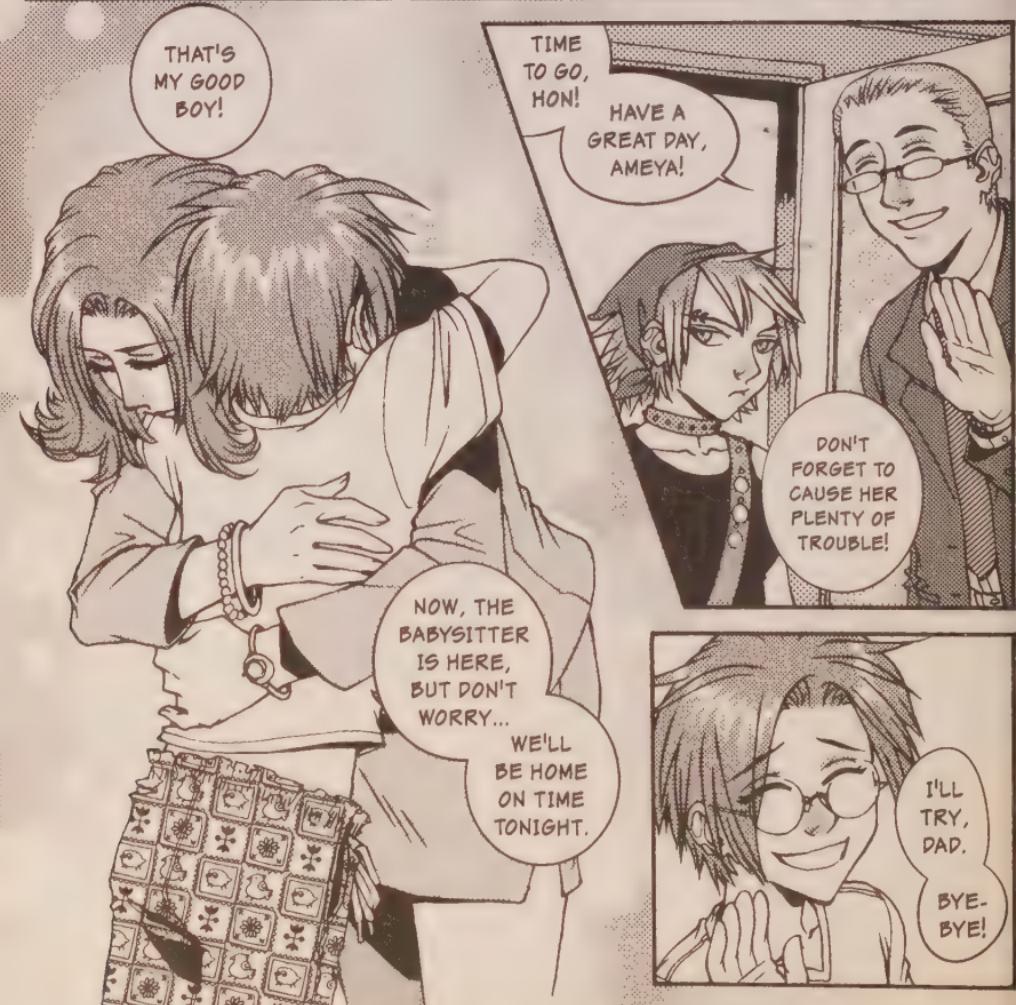
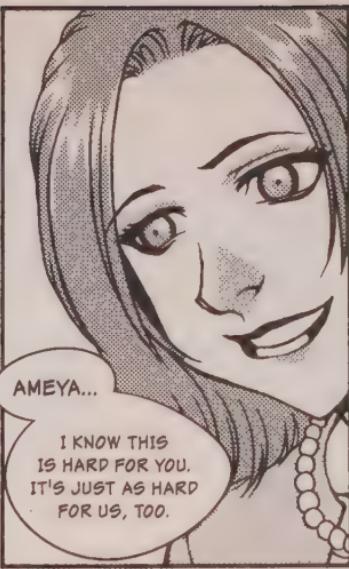
SO I'M SURE
YOU'LL LOVE
THESE...

sniff
sniff









THEY'RE
GONE, KID...

YOU
KNOW THE
DRILL!

GO
TO YOUR
ROOM AND
LEAVE ME
ALONE.

MUM...

DAD...

PLEASE...

COME
HOME
SOON!

mew?

mew?

mew?

AAAW...

LOOK AT HIM
SLEEPING SO
SOUNDLY.

THINK
HE'LL
LIKE
HIM?

I
HOPE
SO!

mew?

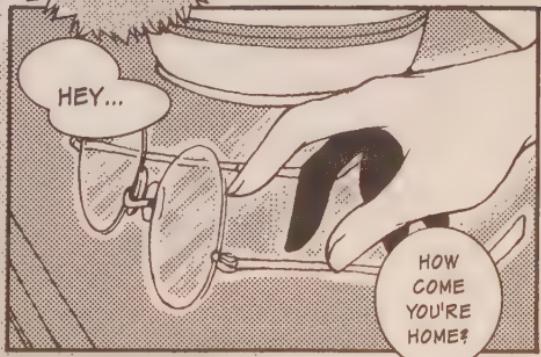
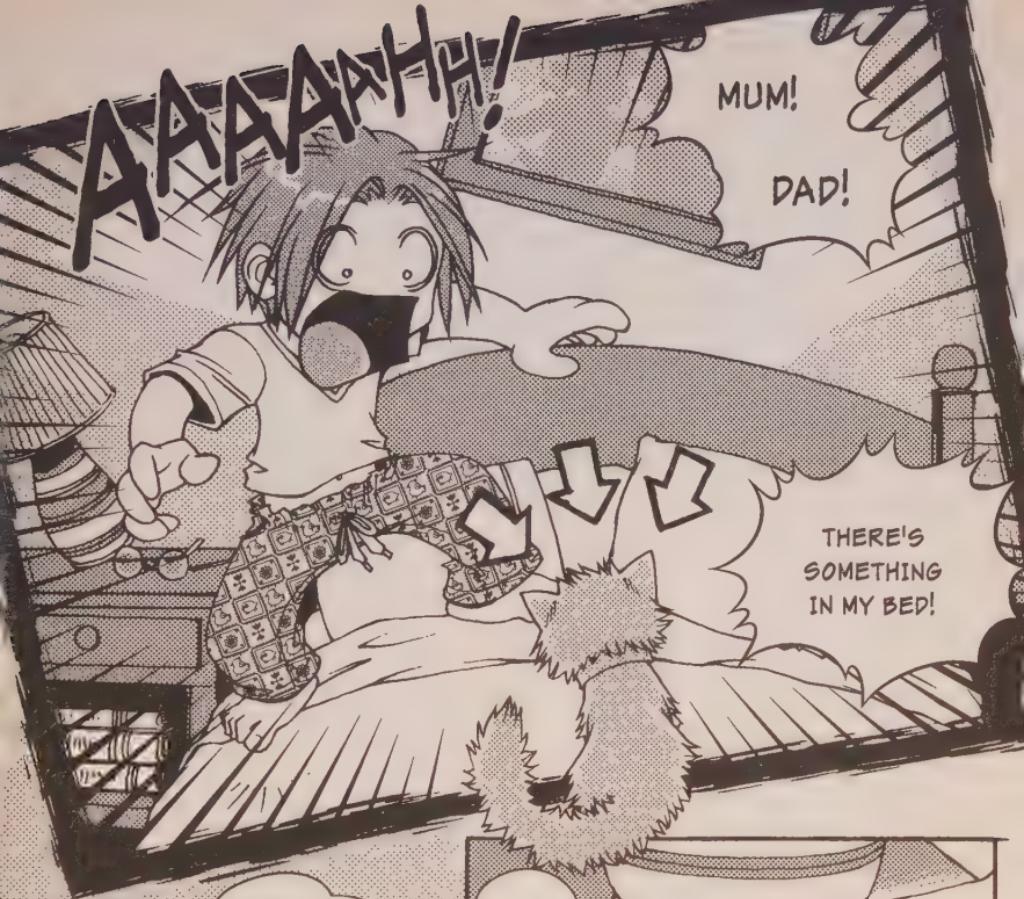
mew?

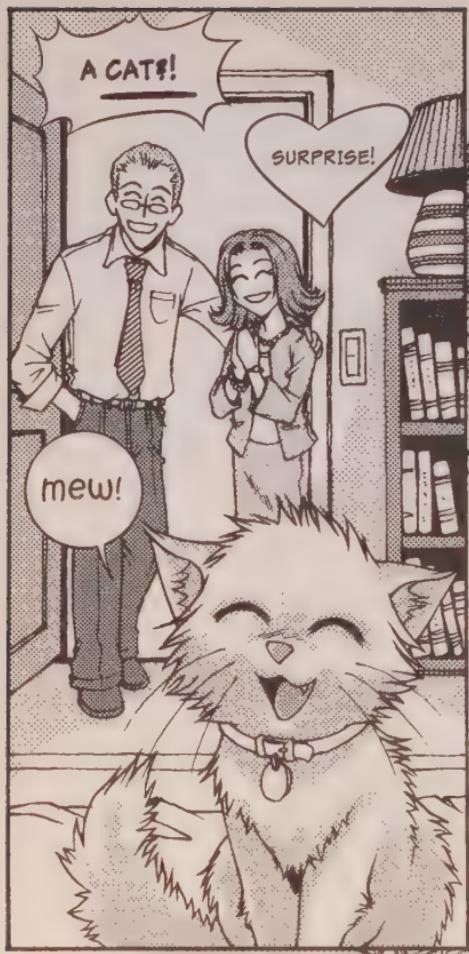
HUH?

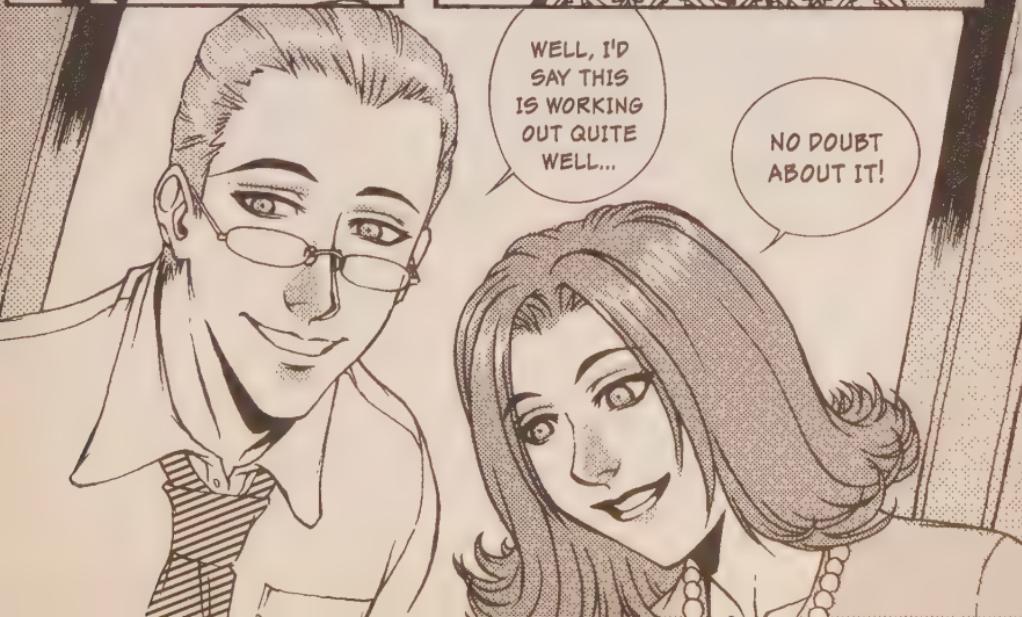
WHAT'S
GOIN' ON?

mew?









HEY LI'L
GUY!

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

THE
SHELTER
CALLED HIM
LUKA. HOW
DOES THAT
SOUND TO
YOU?

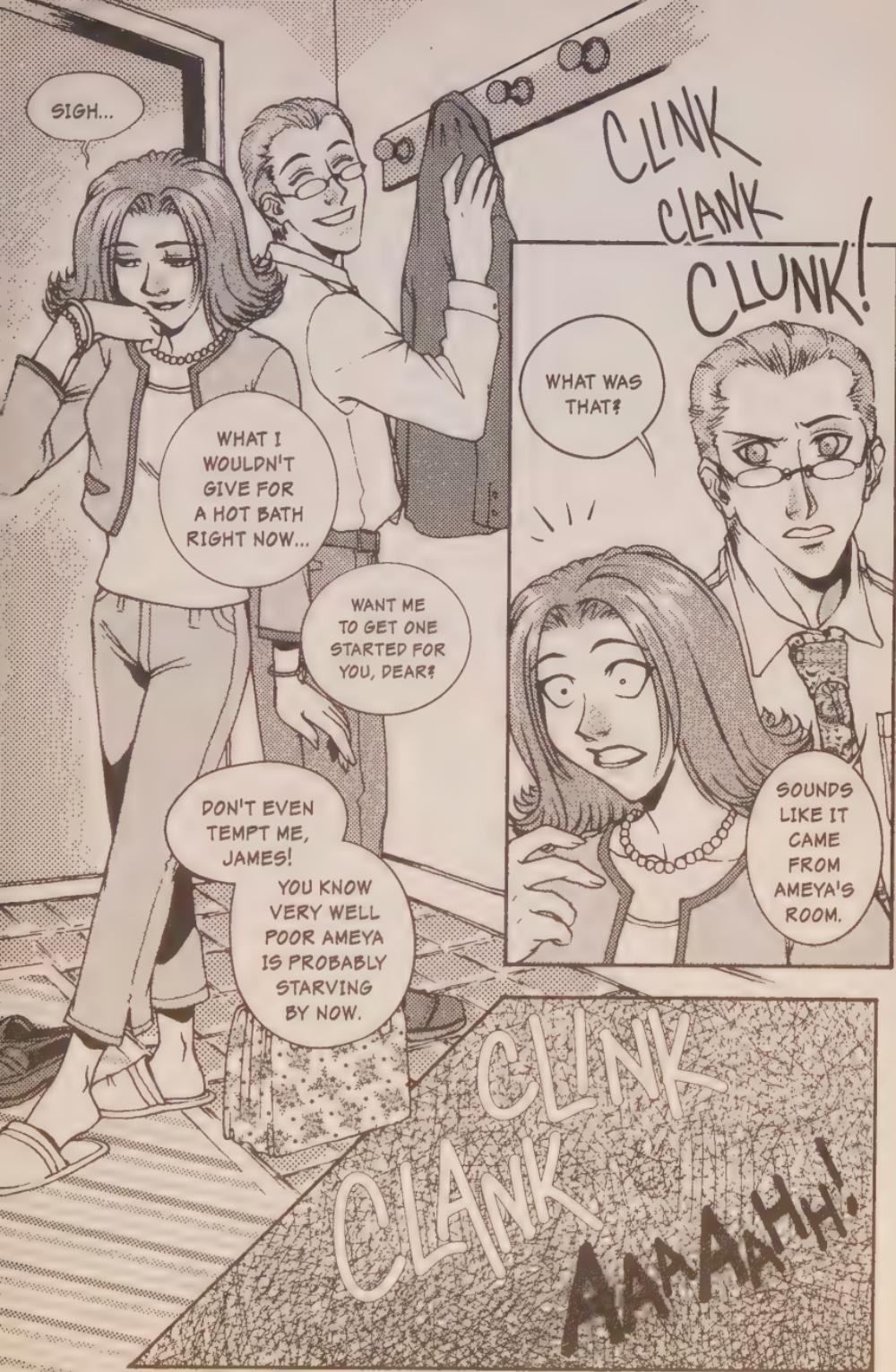
IT
MEANS
BRIGHT
ONE.

LUKA?

LUKA!

FROM NOW
ON, WE'RE
GOING TO
BE BEST
FRIENDS!

mew!



AMEYA!

AMEYA!

AMEYA'S
ROOM

AMEYA!

ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT!?

HUH?

SEE, HE'S
FINE! NOW
RELAX.

HI, MUM!

HI,
DAD!

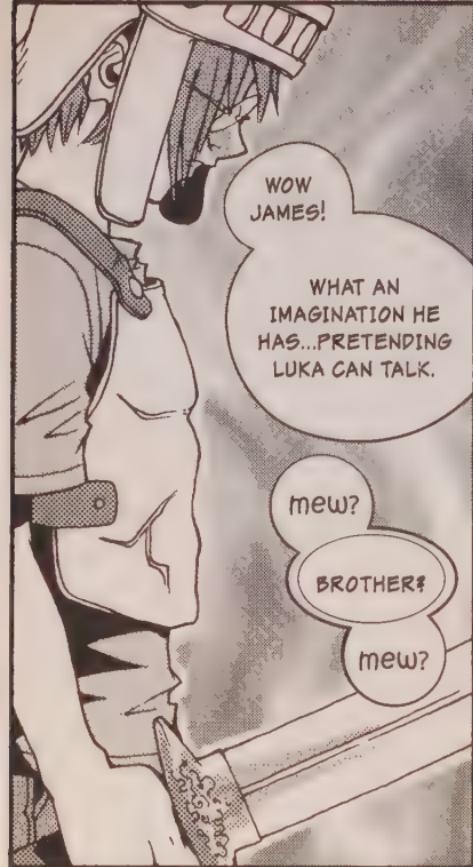
HOME
FROM WORK
ALREADY?

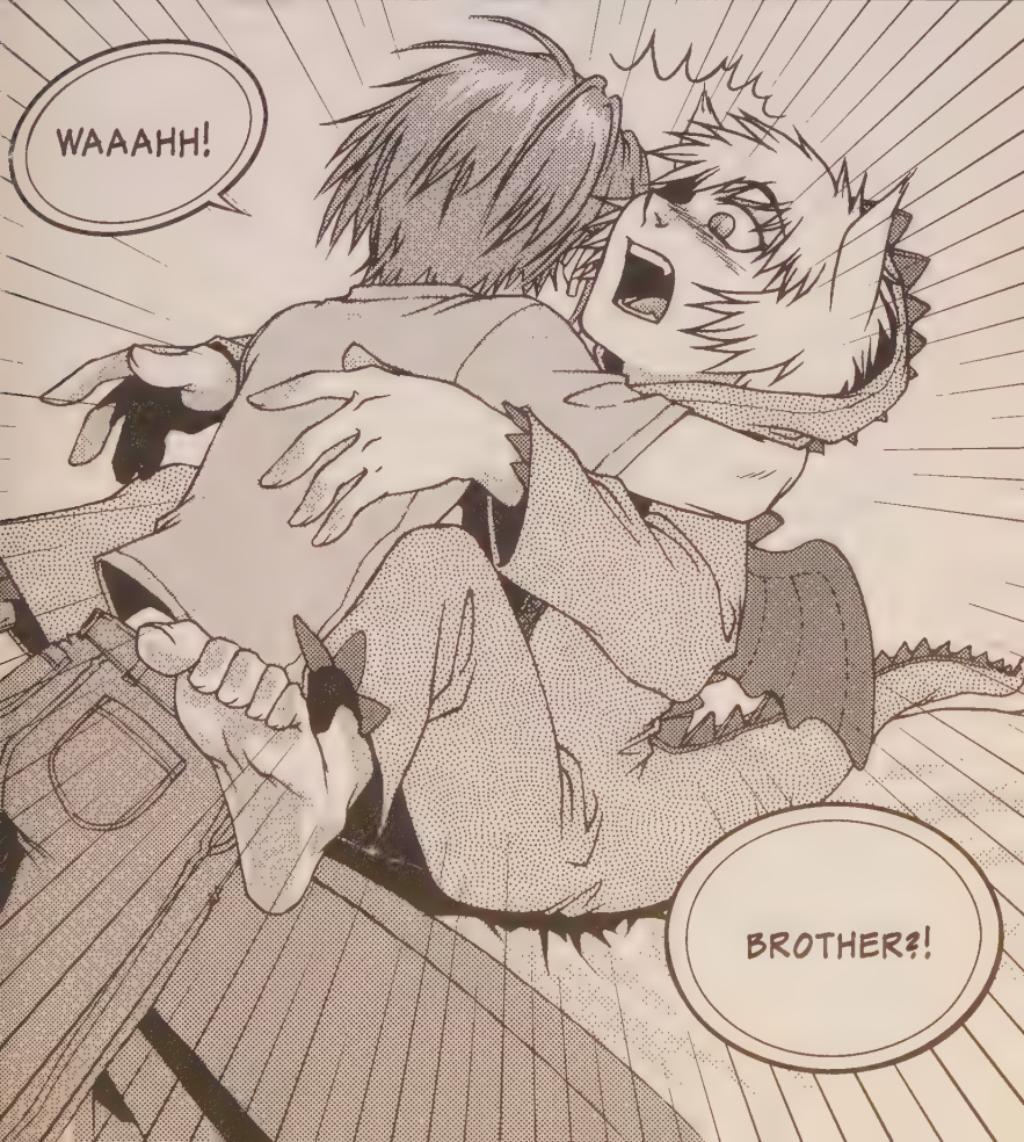


mew!









PLEASE...LUKA
DON'T EVER
LEAVE ME!

PLEASE!
YOU'RE MY ONLY
FRIEND...

THE ONLY
ONE WHO
UNDERSTANDS
ME!

PLEASE...

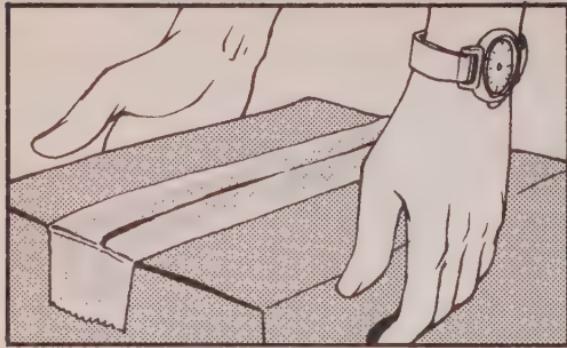
LUKA...
DON'T
EVER
LEAVE
ME!

SILLY!

I'LL
NEVER,
EVER
LEAVE!

I'LL ALWAYS
BE HERE
FOR YOU!



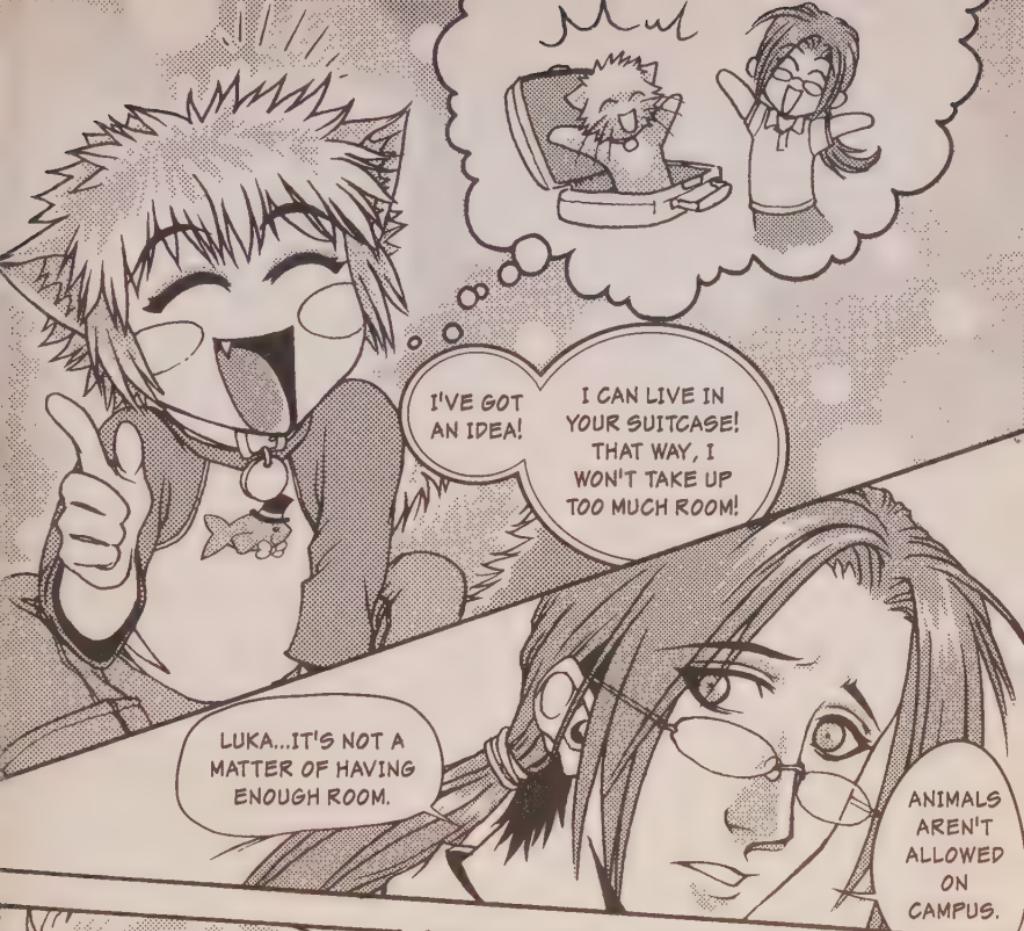


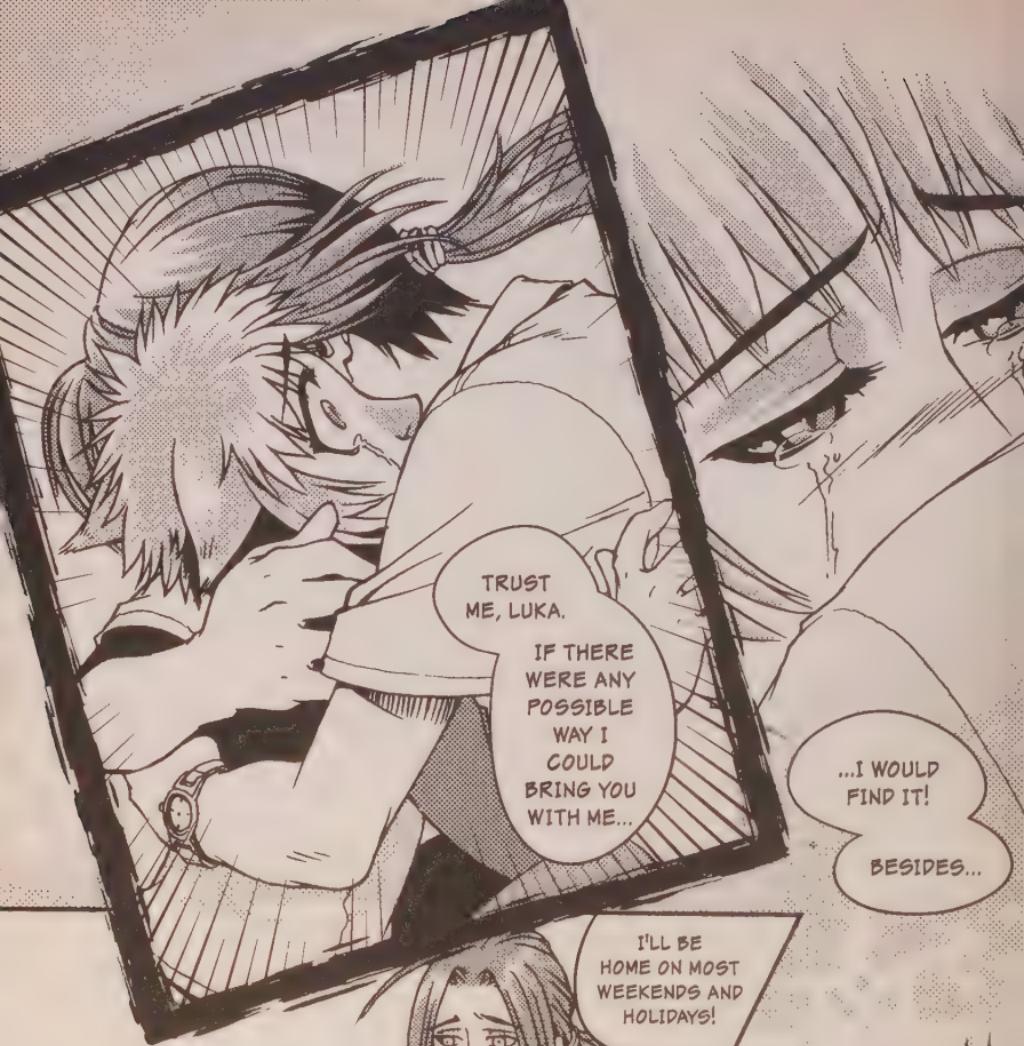
ARE YOU SURE
YOU HAVE
EVERYTHING,
AMEYA, DEAR?

YUP!

I'VE ONLY
GOT ONE
SUITCASE
LEFT.









"I'LL
MISS
YOU,
LUKA.

I'LL
NEVER
FORGET
YOU..."

BUT
AS THE
YEARS
WENT BY...

LIFE HAPPENED...

AND THE TRIPS
HOME BECAME
LESS FREQUENT.

KNOCK
KNOCK!

GOOD
MORNING!

IT'S YOUR
FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
AGENT!

HELLOoooooooo....

AMEYA?

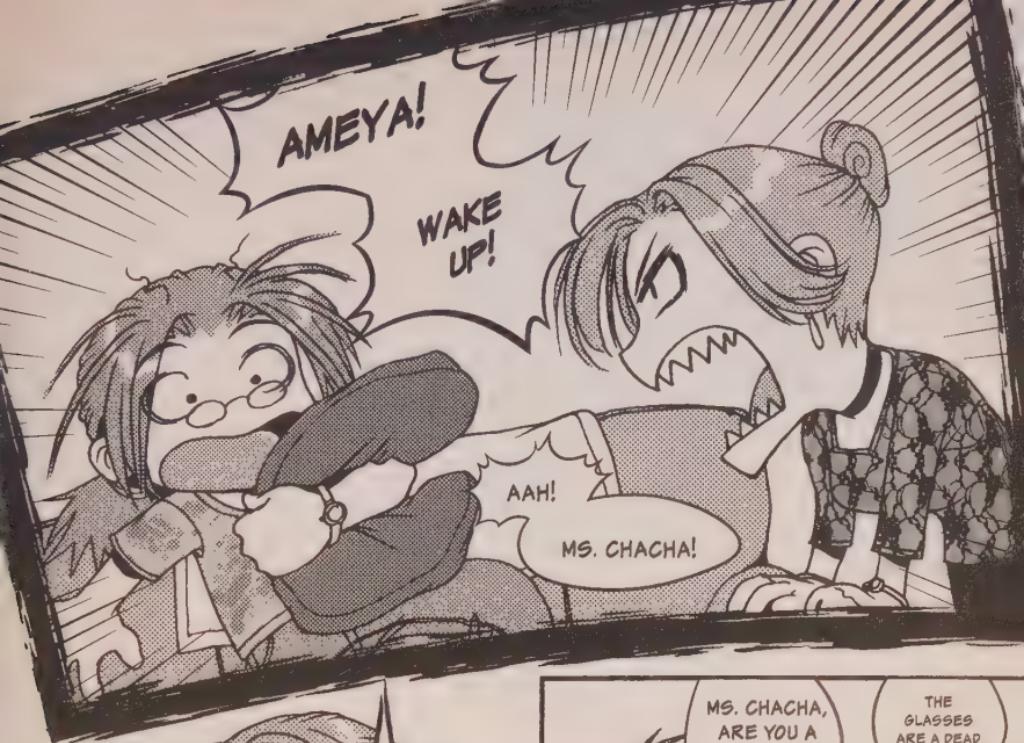
ARE YOU
HERE?

AMEYA?

AAAAAMEEEYA...

MMMM...
JUST A
FEW MORE
MINUTES...

HUH?



I REALLY
WISH SHE'D
LEARN TO USE
E-MAIL...

STILL THE
OLD FASHIONED
TYPE, EH?

YOU DON'T
KNOW THE
HALF OF IT...

OH GOD...
NO!
NO!
NO!
NO!

AMEYA!
PLEASE!

COME
ON, YOU'RE
SCARING
ME.

TELL ME
WHAT'S
WRONG.

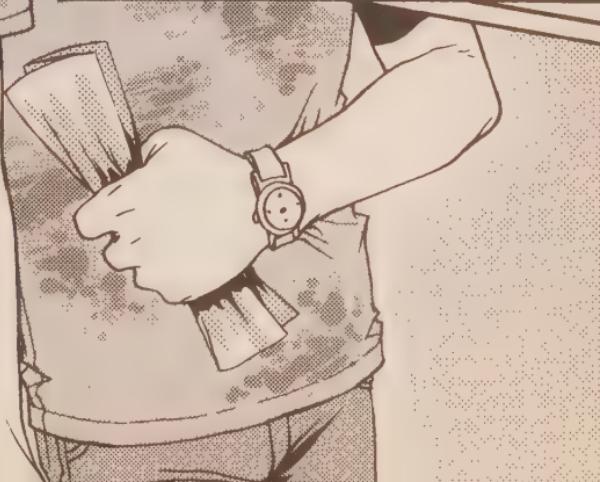
AMEYA?

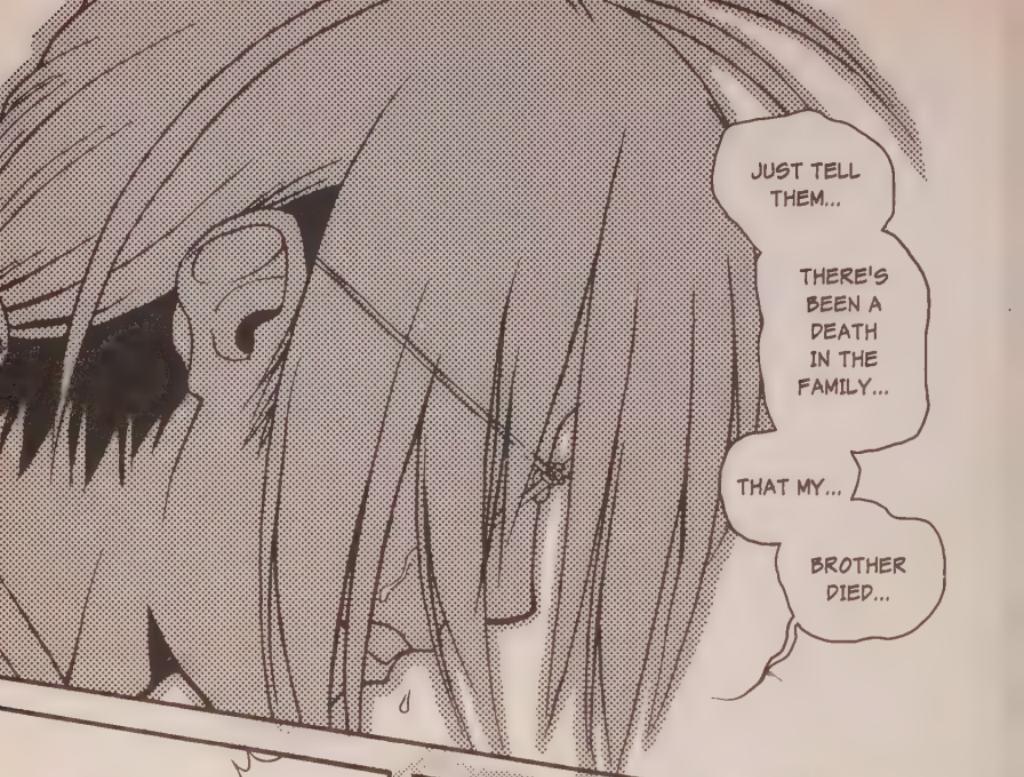
WHAT'S THE
MATTER?

IS
EVERYTHING
OKAY AT
HOME?

IT...
IT...

IT'S
ALL MY
FAULT...





JUST TELL
THEM...

THERE'S
BEEN A
DEATH
IN THE
FAMILY...

THAT MY...

BROTHER
DIED...



WE BURIED
LUKA UNDER OUR
FAVORITE TREE.

I KNEW
THAT...

...HE
WOULD
HAVE
WANTED
IT THAT
WAY.

I'M SORRY,
MS. CHACHA...

BUT
I'M NOT
COMING
BACK...
FOR A
WHILE.

WHAT?!
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?

AMEYA,
PLEASE!

WE'VE
WORKED
SO HARD
FOR
THIS!

YOU CAN'T
JUST LEAVE!

I'M
SORRY...
BUT...

I CAN'T
DO THIS
ANYMORE.

AMEYA...
LISTEN...

AT
LEAST COME
BACK...WE
CAN FIGURE
THINGS
OUT THEN.

JUST...
PLEASE...
DON'T
LEAVE ME.
PLEASE...

SEVERAL MONTHS
LATER, AFTER
MUCH CONVINCING
FROM MS. CHACHA,
I OPENED UP A
NEW GALLERY IN
MY HOMETOWN.

BUT DESPITE
THE RANGE
OF ARTISTS
WE FEATURED
MONTHLY...

...THE
GALLERY
LACKED MY
OWN WORKS.

LUKA WAS GONE...
AND WITH HIM,
MY DREAMS AND
INSPIRATIONS.

THREE YEARS
LATER, MS. CHACHA
SURPRISED
ME WITH AN
ANNOUNCEMENT...



SHUT UP!!!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA
WHAT IT'S LIKE!

BUT...ME
BEING THE
STUBBORN
ONE,
WOULDN'T
HEAR OF IT...

AND IT
ONLY MADE
MATTERS
WORSE.

IN A FIT OF ANGER AND
FRUSTRATION, I FOUND
MYSELF OUT IN THE RAIN...

LITTLE DID I
KNOW WHAT
FATE HAD IN
STORE FOR ME...

I DON'T THINK I
CAN FACE HER
AGAIN AFTER
BLOWING UP AT
HER LIKE THAT...

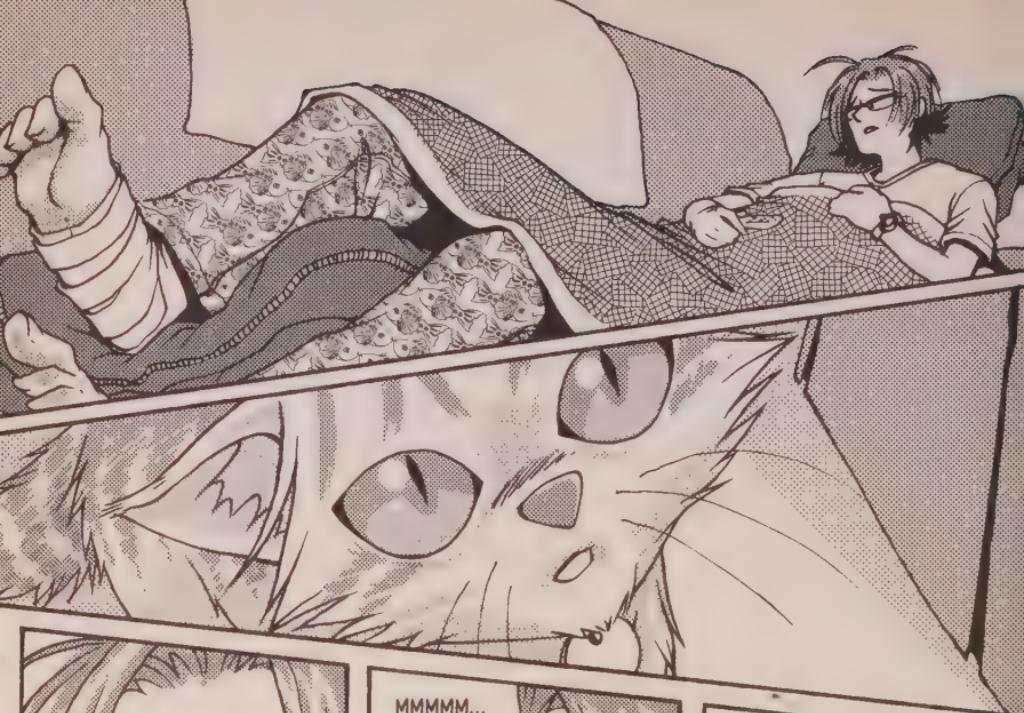
NOPE...
I DEFINITELY
HEARD IT!

...IN THE FORM
OF A LITTLE
WET CAT.

mew?

GASP

flick
flick



CHAPTER 2





OKAY!

I'VE GOT THE
DUST RAGS,
MOP, PAIL...

...FURNITURE
POLISH, GLASS
CLEANER
AND FEATHER
DUSTERS...

READY TO GET
STARTED?

KNOCK
KNOCK!
HELLO?

GET
STARTED?

YUP!

TODAY WE'RE
CLEANING
THE GALLERY
AND STUDIO.

AMEYA?

WES!

WAIT A
MINUTE!



I'M NOT
DOING ANY
WORK!

HELLO?

CATS DON'T
DO WORK...

ESPECIALLY NOT
HOUSEWORK!

AMEYA,
WHO'RE YOU
TALKING TO?

THAT'S WHAT
HUMANS
ARE FOR!

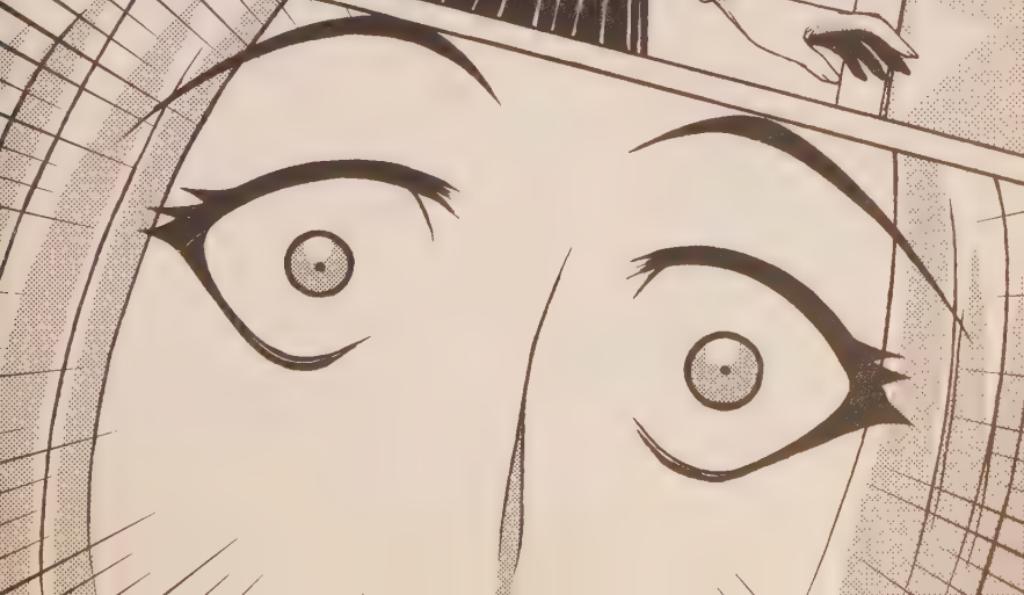


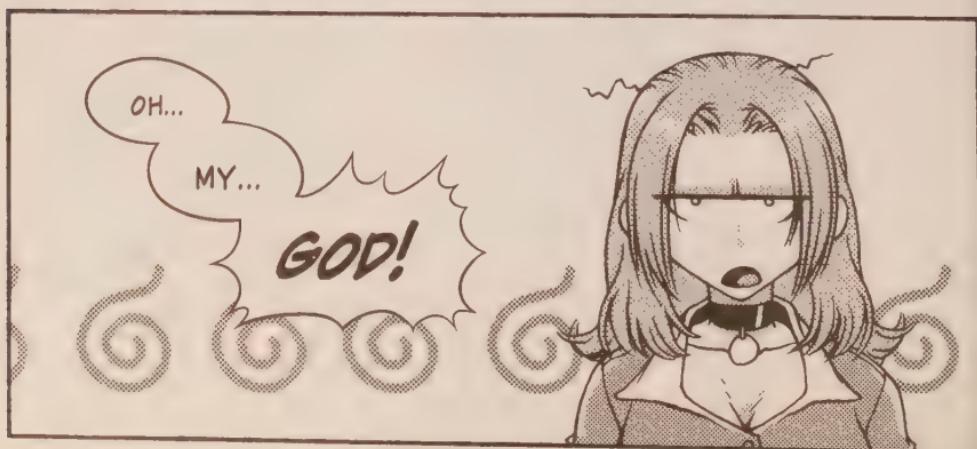
AMEYA?

BUT
LOKI...

...A LITTLE
HOUSEWORK
WON'T HURT
YOU...

YES, IT
WOULD!



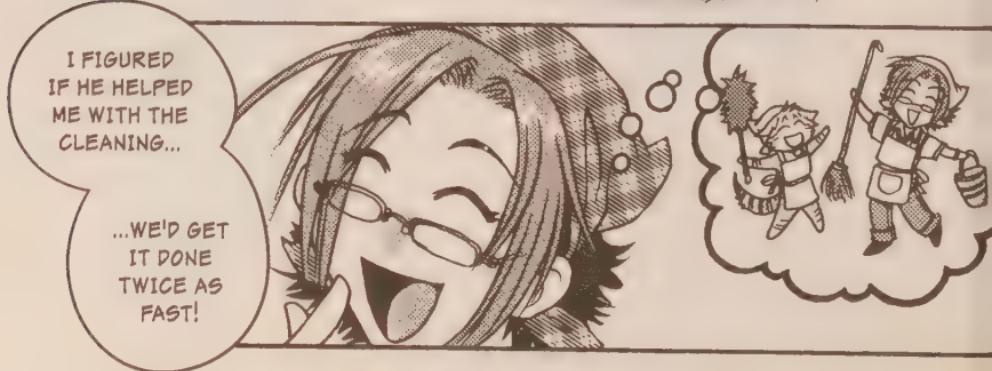
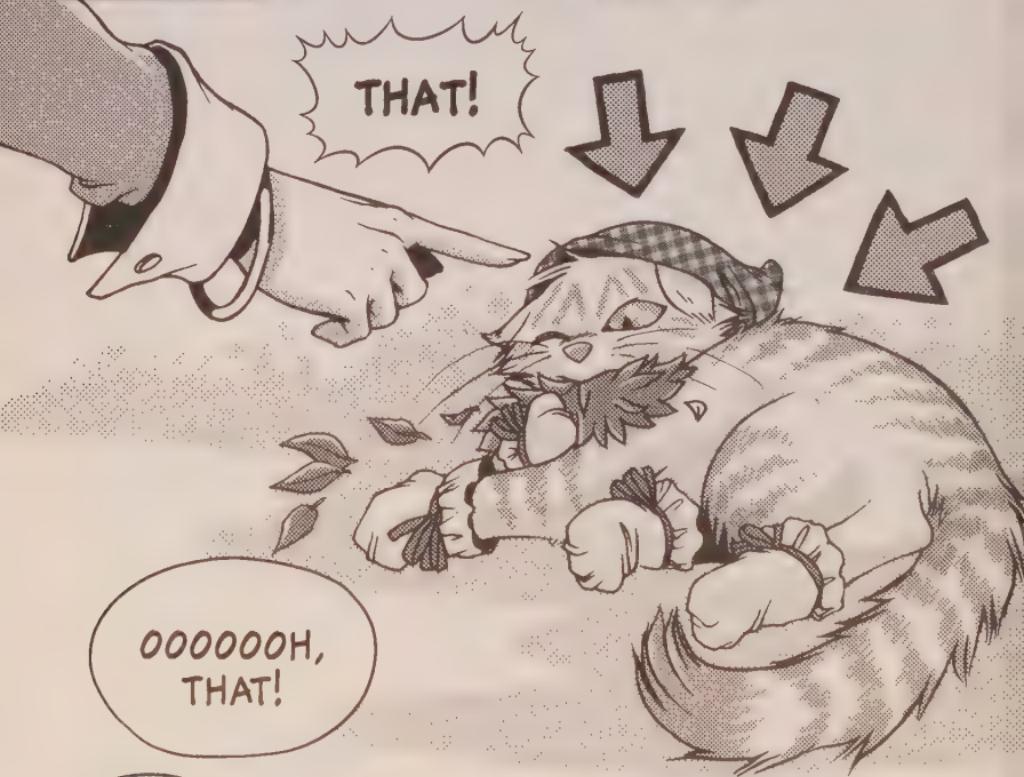


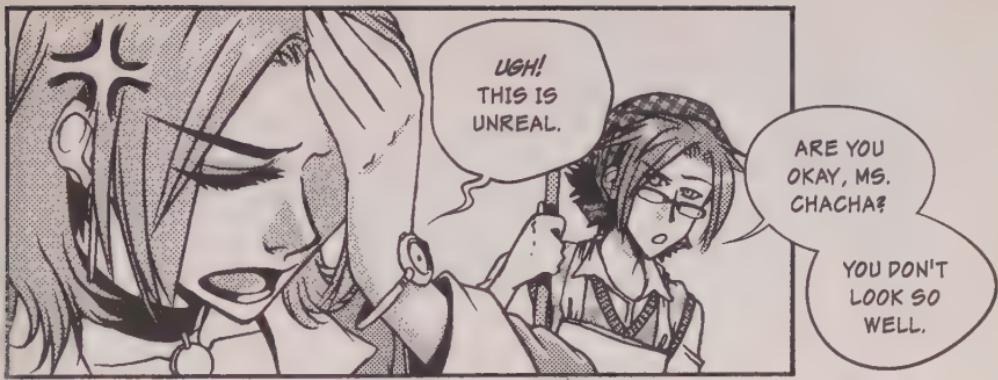
JUST CRAWL
UNDER THE
DESK...

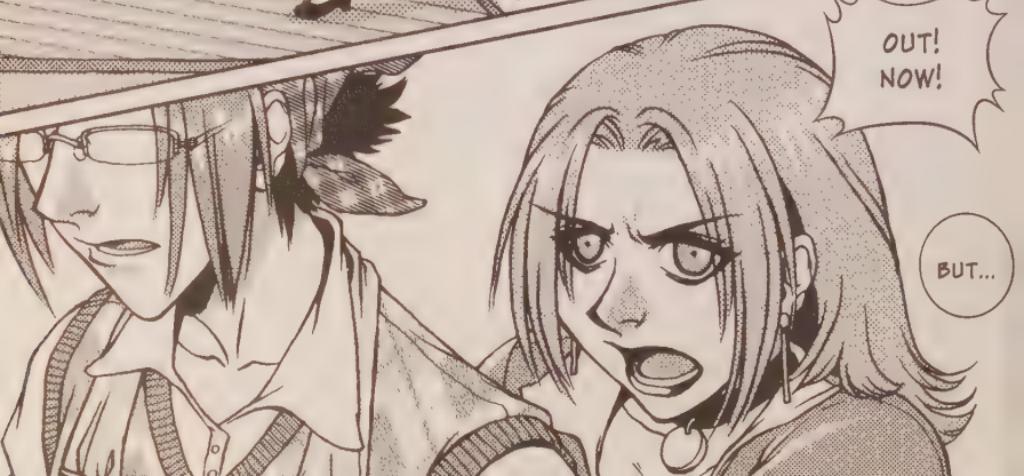
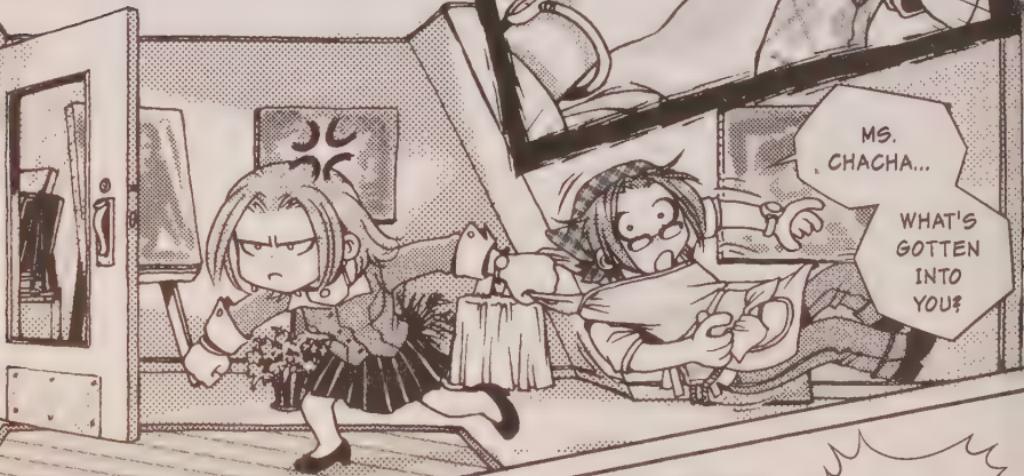
...AND
CHASE
THOSE DUST
BUNNIES
OUT...

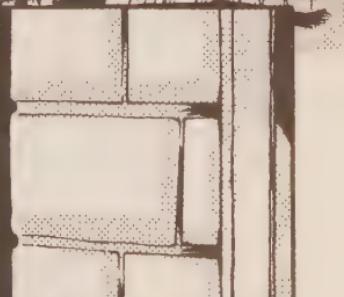
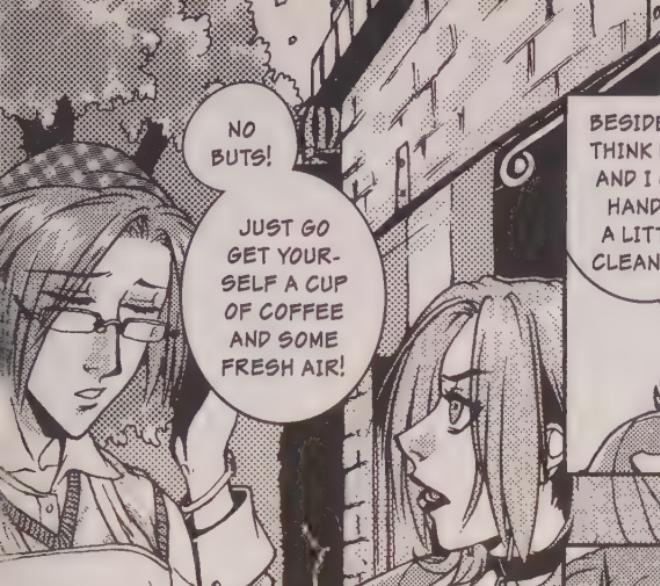
OH!

HI, MS.
CHACHA!







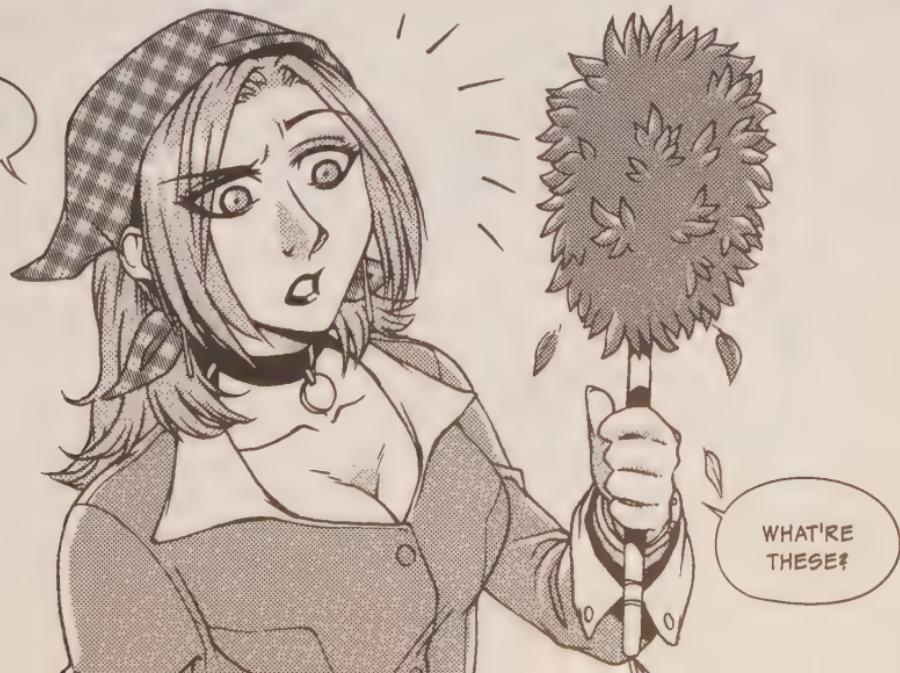
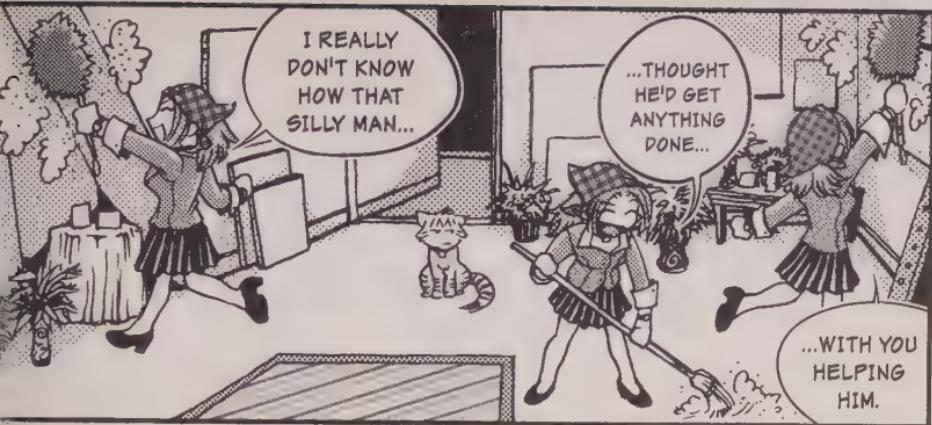


OKAY,
CAT!

IT'S JUST
YOU AND ME,
NOW.

TIME TO SHOW
THOSE DUST
BUNNIES WHO
IS BOSS!

gulp!



SKETCHES?!

IS HE...?

NO WAY!

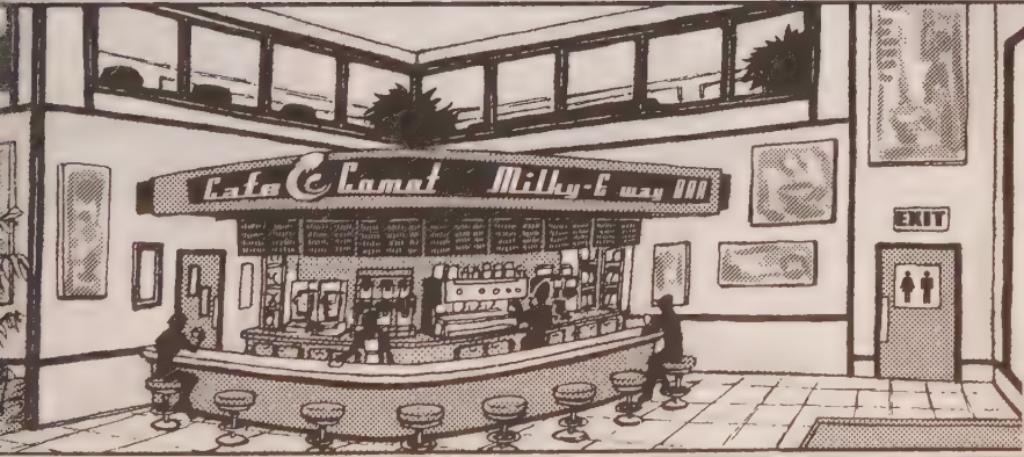
THEY'RE SO
BIZARRE...

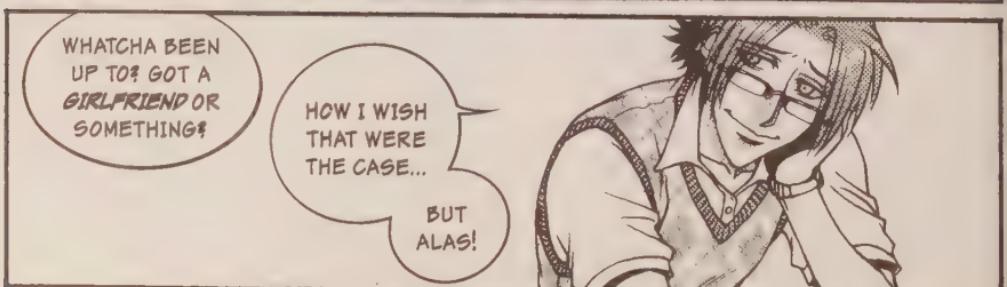
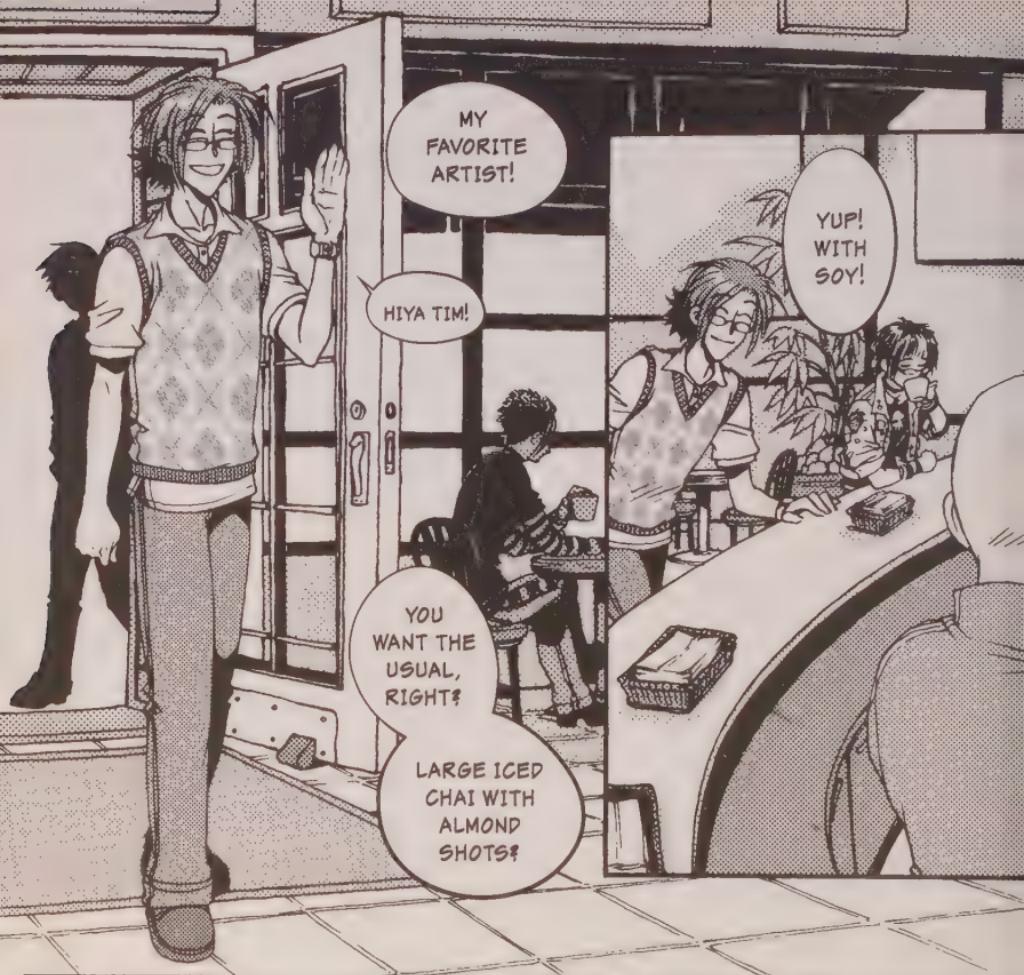
CAT BOYS,
AMEYA?
REALLY?

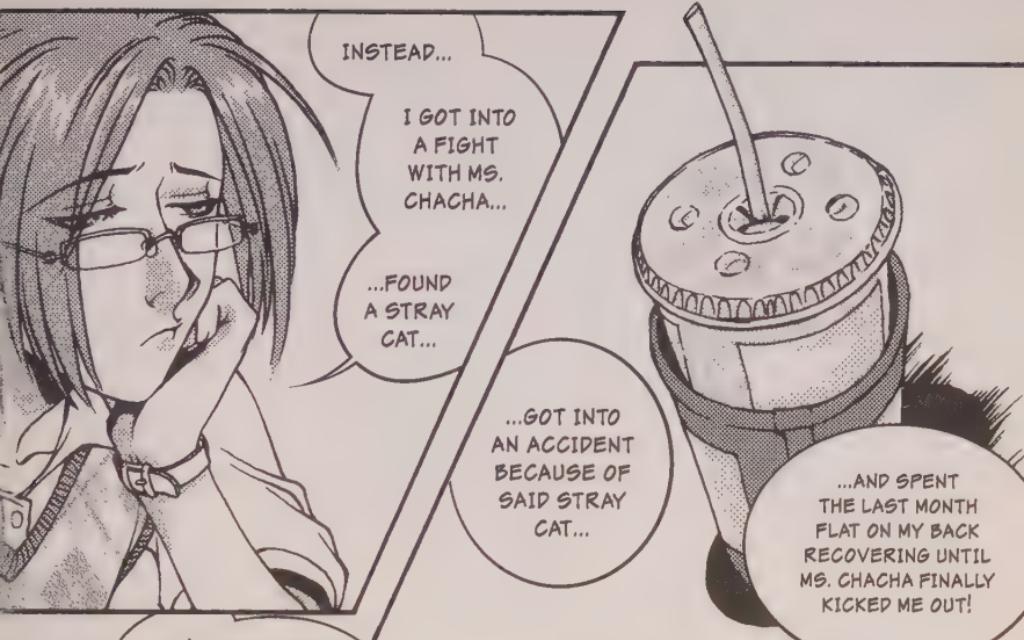
HEH. THEY
KIND OF
LOOK LIKE
YOU, LOKI...

SNIFF! I
SUPPOSE
IT DOESN'T
MATTER WHAT
HE DOES AT
THIS POINT.

AS LONG
AS HE'S
FINALLY DOING
SOMETHING
AGAIN!







WELL...

YOU
ONLY WORKED
HERE ALL
THROUGH HIGH
SCHOOL AND
COLLEGE...

...NOT TO
MENTION YOUR
MORE RECENT
PATRONAGE...

...SO, I THINK
I'VE GOTTEN
TO KNOW
YOU PRETTY
WELL BY
NOW...

YOU DO
HAVE A
POINT
THERE!

OH,
WOW!

YOU
USE TO
WORK
HERE?

YUP!

I TAUGHT HIM
EVERYTHING HE
KNOWS ABOUT LATTES,
CAPPUCCINOS AND
ESPRESSOS.

I'M
EMILY,
BY THE
WAY.

AMEYA,
RIGHT?

HI!

NICE TO
MEET
YOU!

AH,
YES!

GOOD TIMES!
GOOD TIMES!

A LOT
OF HISTORY HAS
BEEN MADE UNDER
THIS CAFÉ ROOF.

OH
REALLY?

CARE TO
SHARE,
"BOSS"?

OH
BOY...

CAN I TAKE
YOUR ORDER,
MISS?

ONE SMALL
HOT CHAI
PLEASE.

COMIN'
RIGHT UP!

WELL,
YOU KNOW
THAT THE
ARTIST I
WAS TALKING
ABOUT THE
OTHER DAY?

YEAH, WHAT
ABOUT HIM?

WELL,
YOU'RE STANDING
RIGHT IN FRONT
OF HIM!

NO WAY!

THAT'S
RIGHT!

ALL
THROUGH
COLLEGE,
AMEYA WOULD
PAINT UP
A STORM.

AND SINCE
HE WASN'T
REALLY
KNOWN BACK
THEN...

AND DIDN'T
HAVE THE
SPACE TO
STORE THEM
ALL...

...HE GAVE
QUITE A
FEW TO THE
CAFÉ!

NO WAY!

YOU'RE THE
AMEYA?!

YOU'VE
HEARD
OF ME?

HOW COULD I
NOT HAVE! YOU
WERE THE MOST
TALKED-ABOUT
ARTIST ON THE
EAST COAST THREE
YEARS AGO!

WHOA!

MISS...WATCH
OUT FOR
THAT WET
SPOT! IT'S...

BUT THEN YOU
DISAPPEARED.

WHAT
HAPPENED?

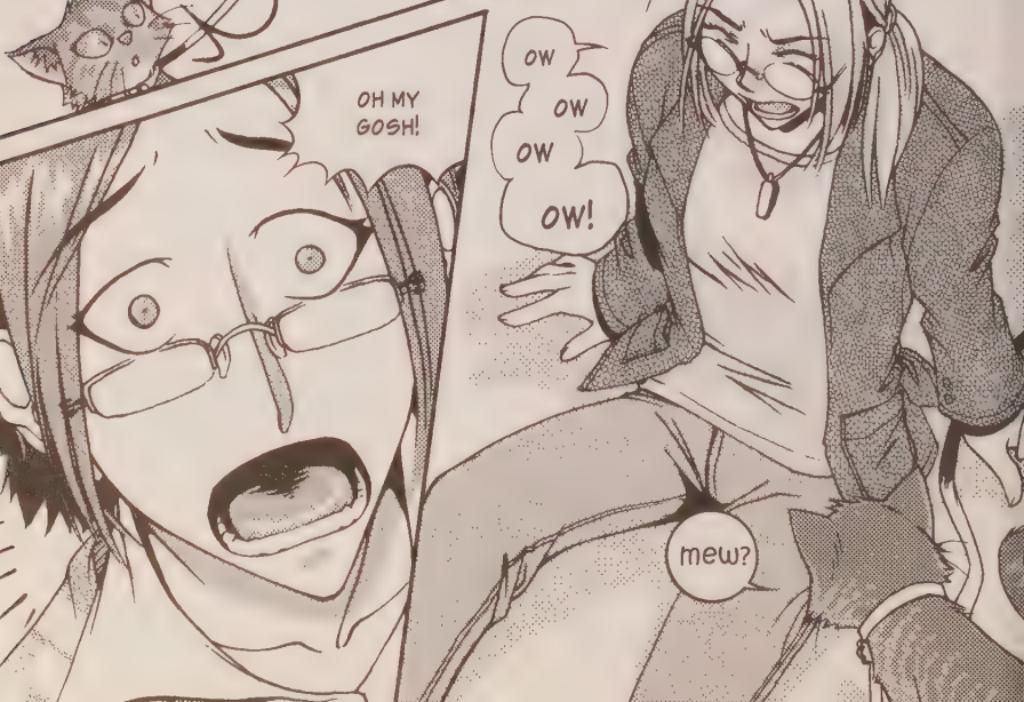
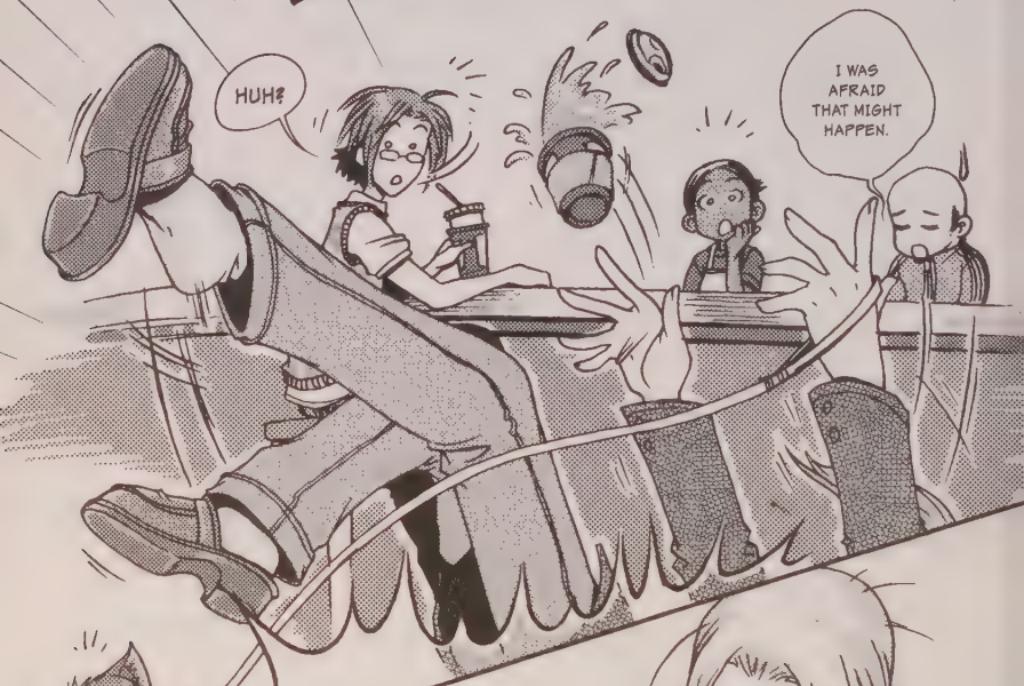
WELL, IT'S
A LONG
STORY...

COME ON
CALL!!

WE NEED
TO GET
HOME!

...
...
...

EEEK!





ARE YOU
GOING TO
BE OKAY?

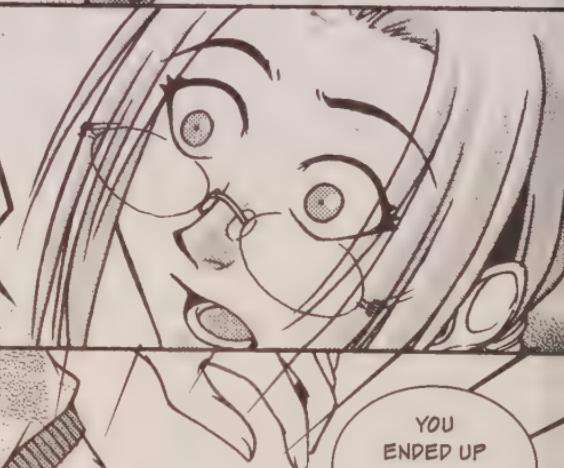
MY BUM WILL
BE A LITTLE
SORE, BUT...

OH,
GOSH!

YOU
ENDED UP
WEARING
MY CHAI!

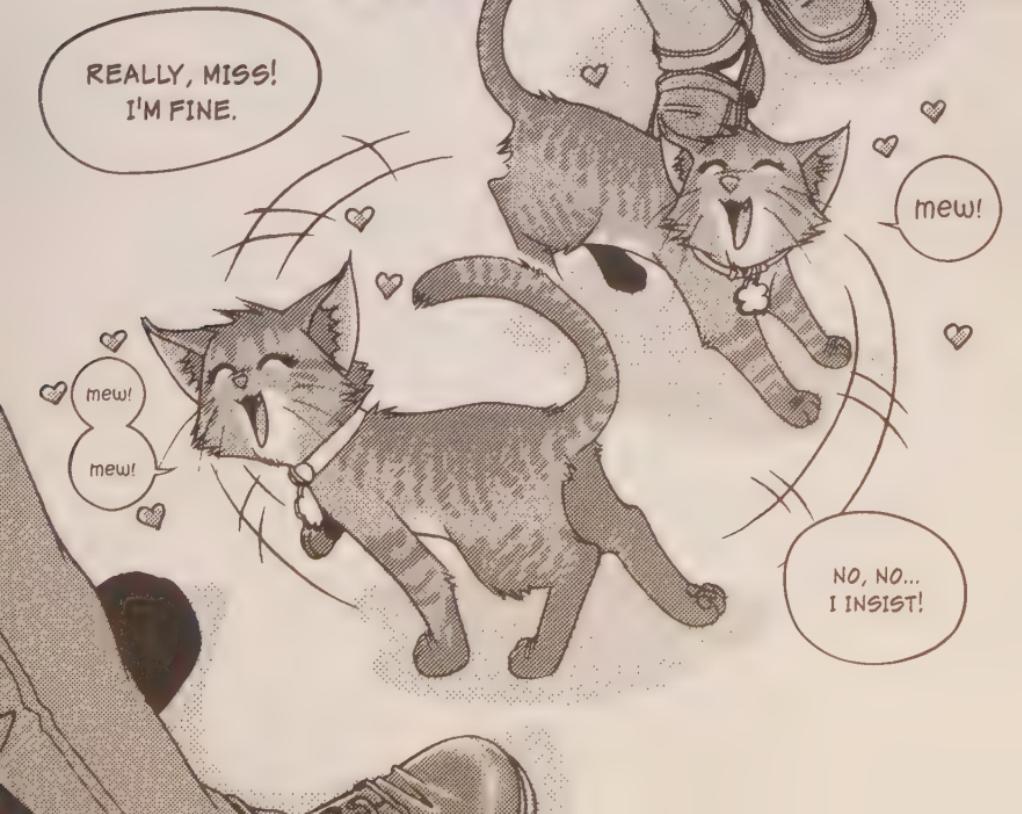
mew!

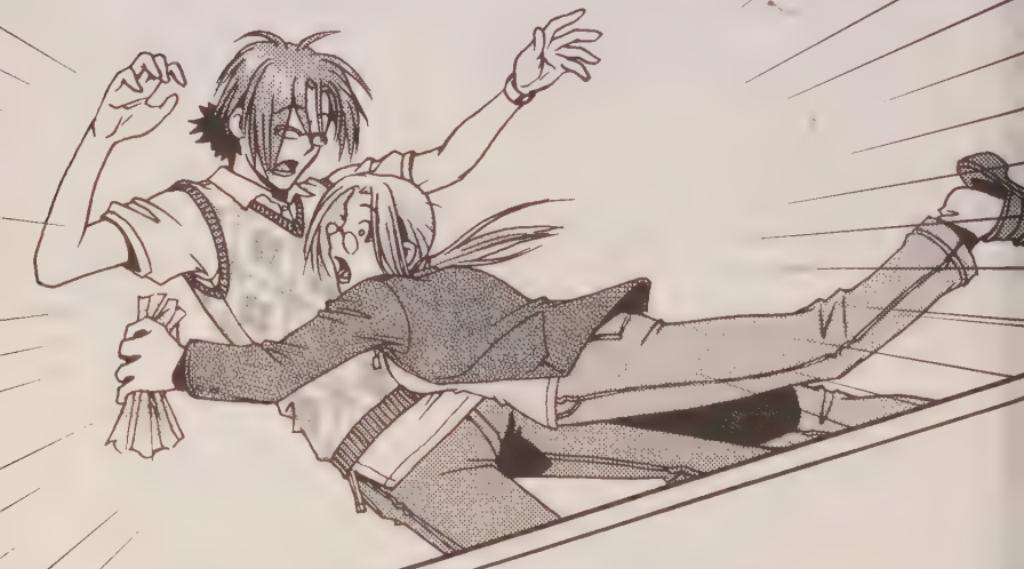
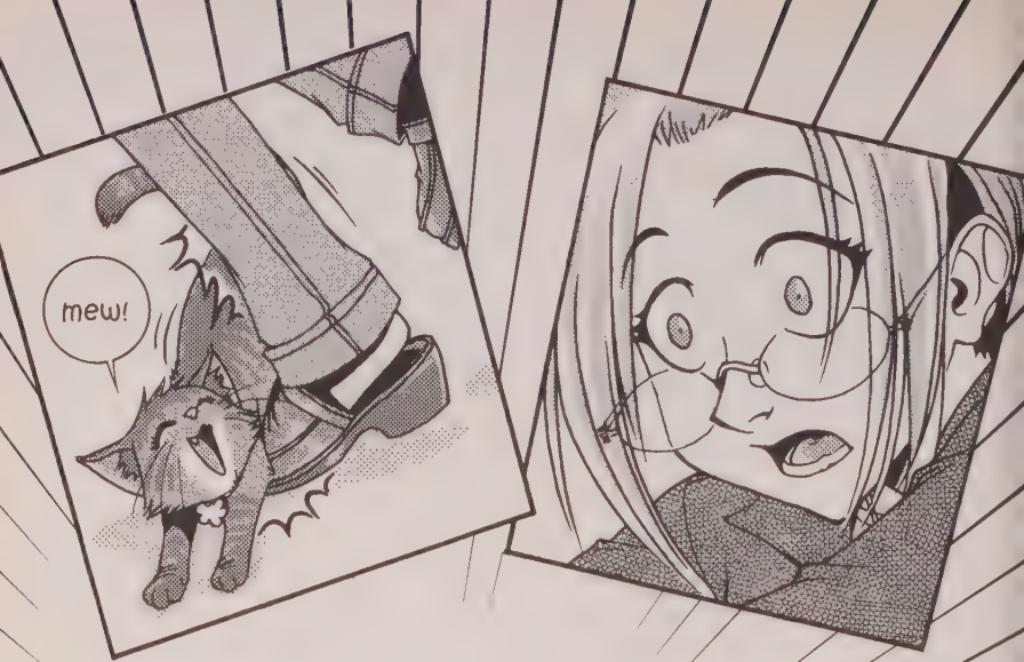
mew!



mew!









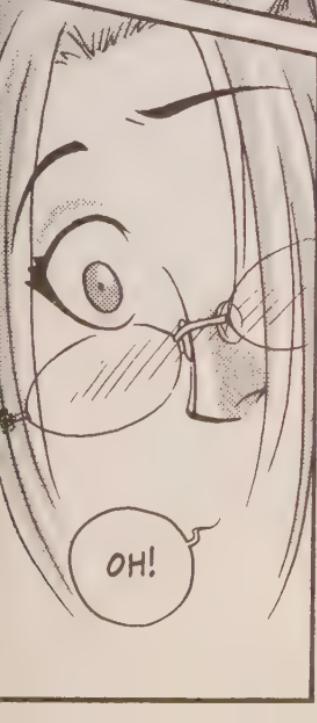
I'M SO
SORRY!
I DID IT
AGAIN!

I'M SUCH
A KLUTZ!

EVERYWHERE
I GO, I ALWAYS
CAUSE TROUBLE.

NO, NO!
DON'T
WORRY!

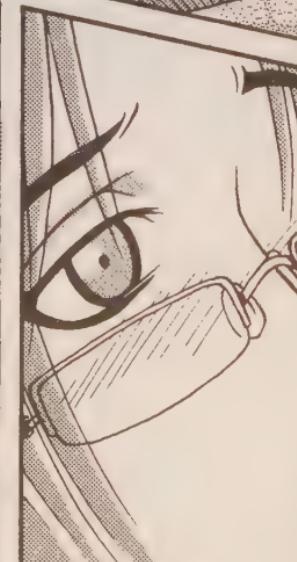
I CAN
RELATE...
I'M A BIT
OF A KLUTZ
MYSELF.



OH!



mew!



REALLY?

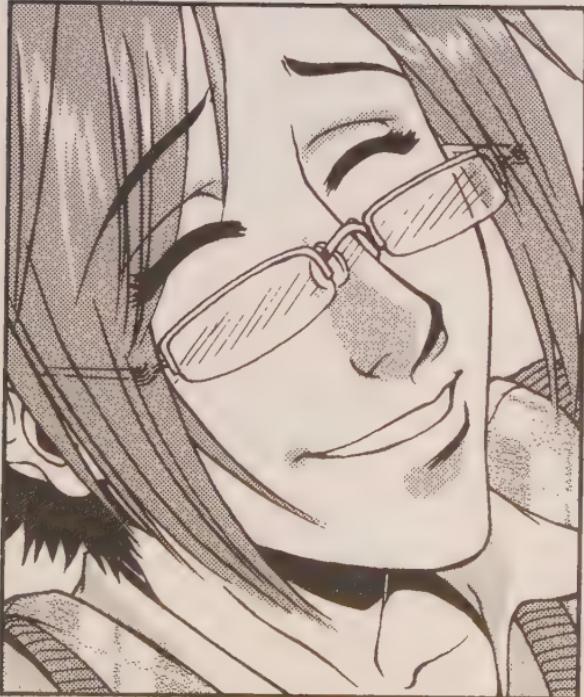
UH-
HUH.

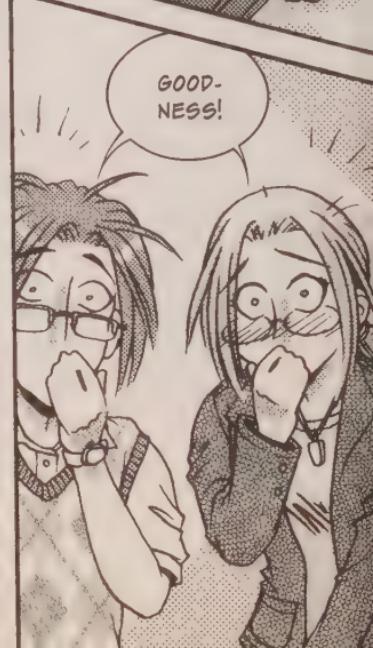
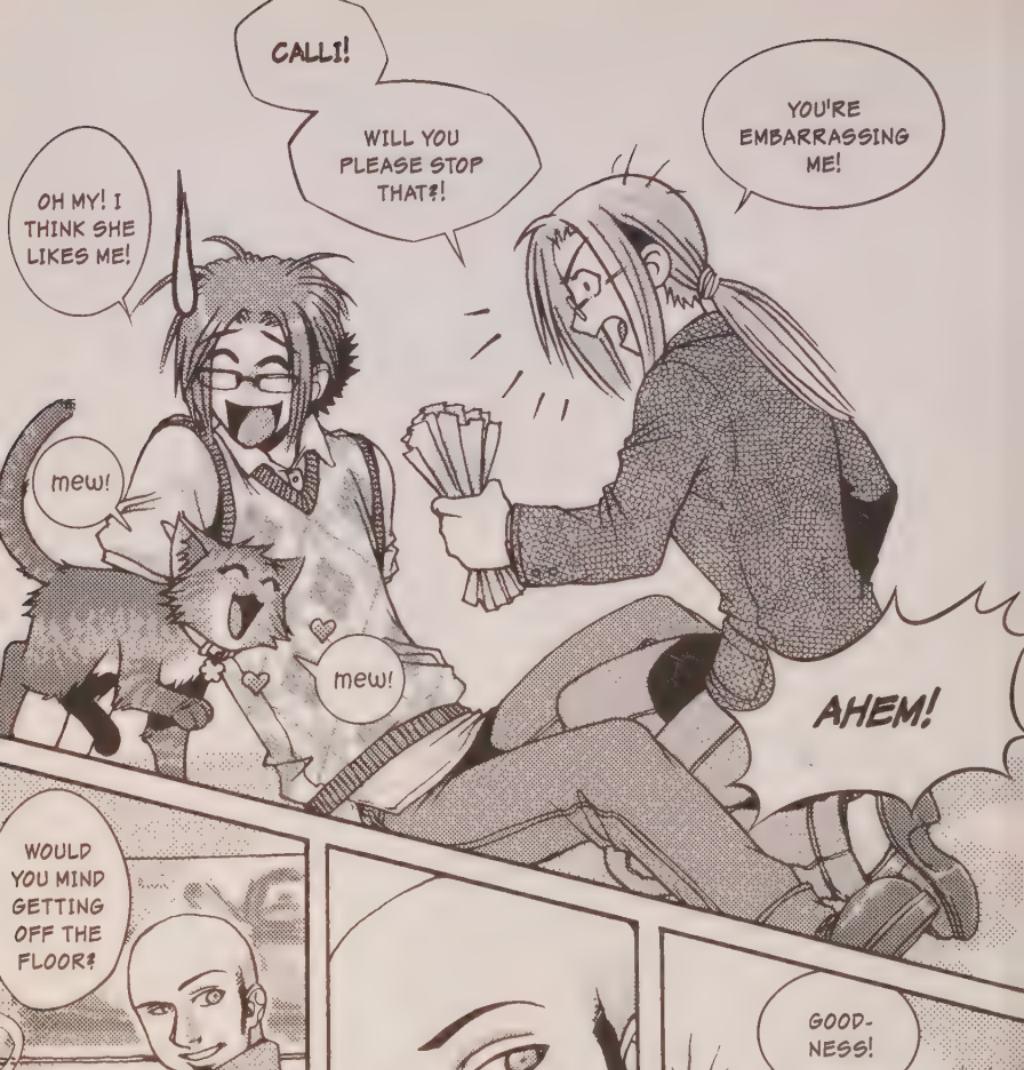
mew!

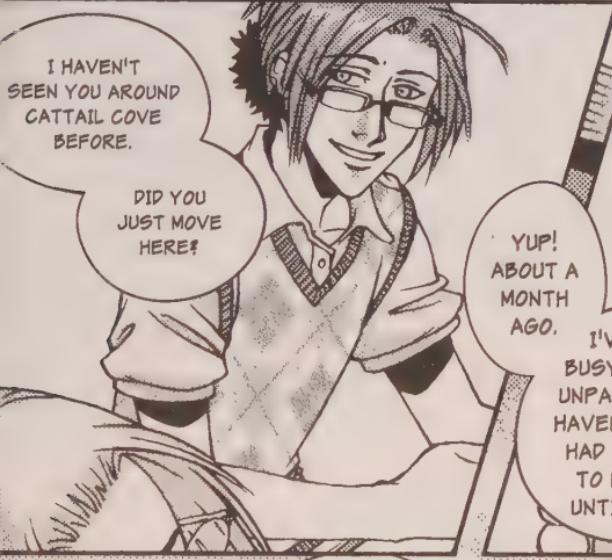
CHAPTER 3







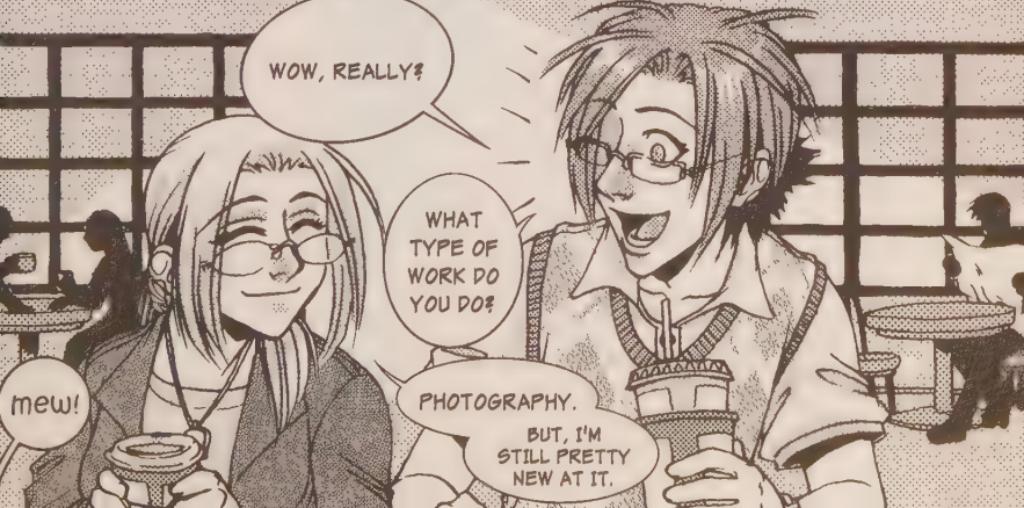




YUP!
ABOUT A
MONTH
AGO.

I'VE BEEN
BUSY GETTING
UNPACKED, SO I
HAVEN'T REALLY
HAD A CHANCE
TO EXPLORE
UNTIL TODAY.

I WAS HOPING
TO FIND A LOCAL
GALLERY WHERE I
COULD SELL SOME
OF MY WORK.



WELL, THEN
TODAY IS YOUR
LUCKY DAY!

I ACTUALLY OWN A
GALLERY AND I'M
ALWAYS LOOKING
FOR NEW ARTISTS
TO SHOW THERE.

EHEH!

NO WAY!
REALLY!

WOULD YOU LIKE
TO STOP BY TODAY
AND TAKE A LOOK
AT OUR SPACE?

THAT IS,
IF YOU'RE
NOT DOING
ANYTHING
LATER.

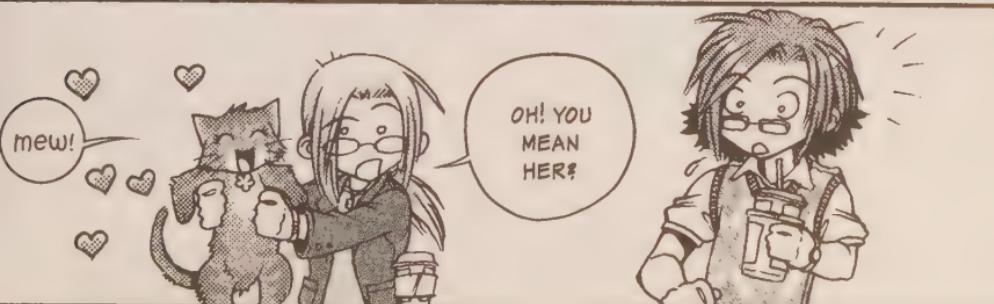
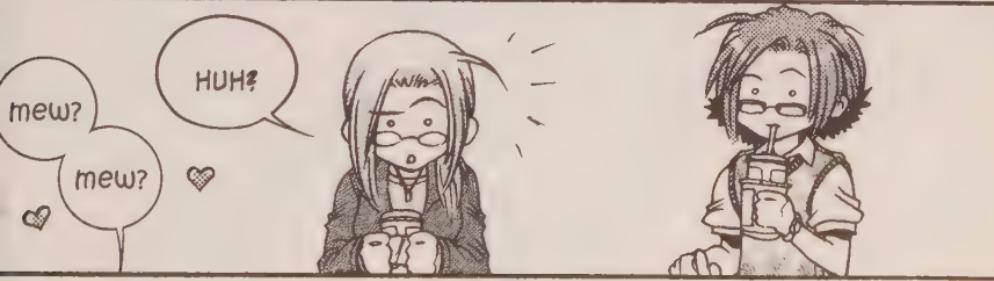
YUP!
AMEYA IS CATTAIL
COVE'S VERY
OWN CELEBRITY.

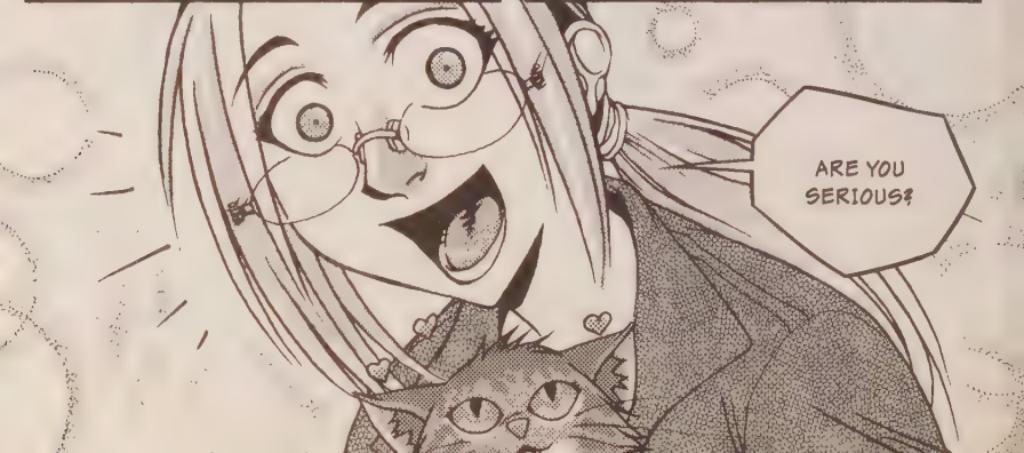
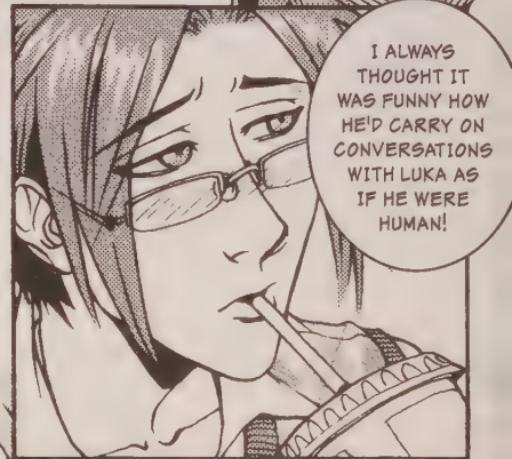
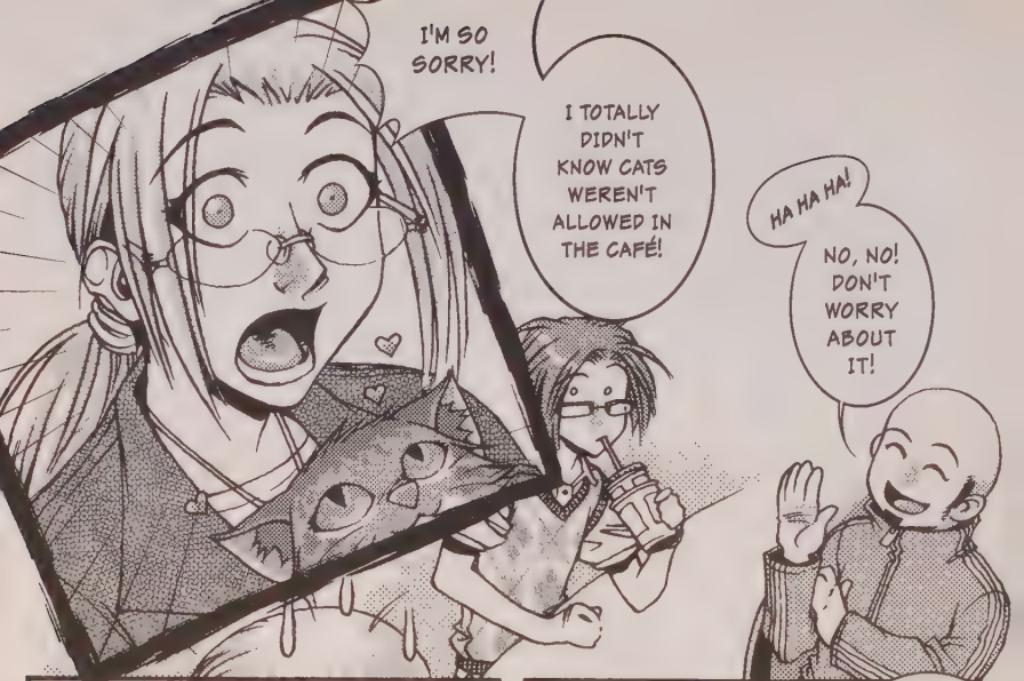
AND TO THINK HE
HAD HIS FIRST PUBLIC
SHOW RIGHT IN
THIS VERY CAFÉ!

AAAH...
THE GOOD
OL' DAYS!

ABSOLUTELY!
I'D LOVE TO!

mew?



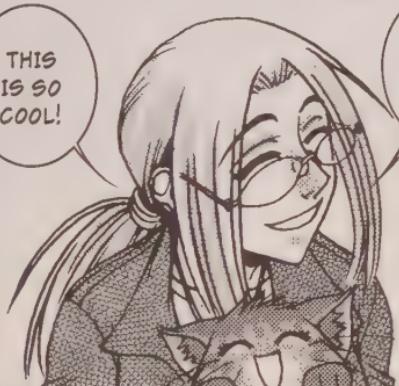




WELL...UM...

YEAH...

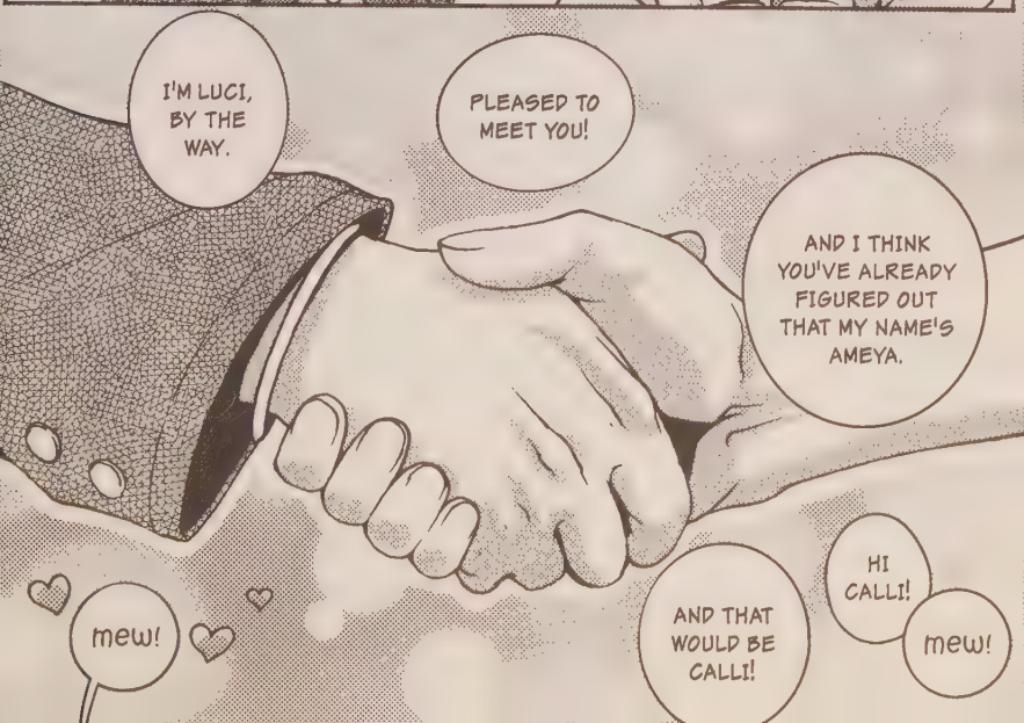
IT IS...EHEH...



THIS
IS SO
COOL!

I ALWAYS
THOUGHT
I WAS THE
ONLY ONE!

ME,
TOO!



I'M LUCI,
BY THE
WAY.

PLEASSED TO
MEET YOU!

AND I THINK
YOU'VE ALREADY
FIGURED OUT
THAT MY NAME'S
AMEYA.

mew!

AND THAT
WOULD BE
CALLI!

HI
CALLI!

mew!

SO, WHAT
DO YOU SAY TO
STOPPING BY
THE STUDIO AND
TAKING A LOOK
AROUND?

BACK ON
THE FLOOR
WITH YOU...

mew!
THEN
SHALL
WE?

OKIE
DOKIE! BYE,
GUYS!
NICE
MEETING
YOU!

SURE!

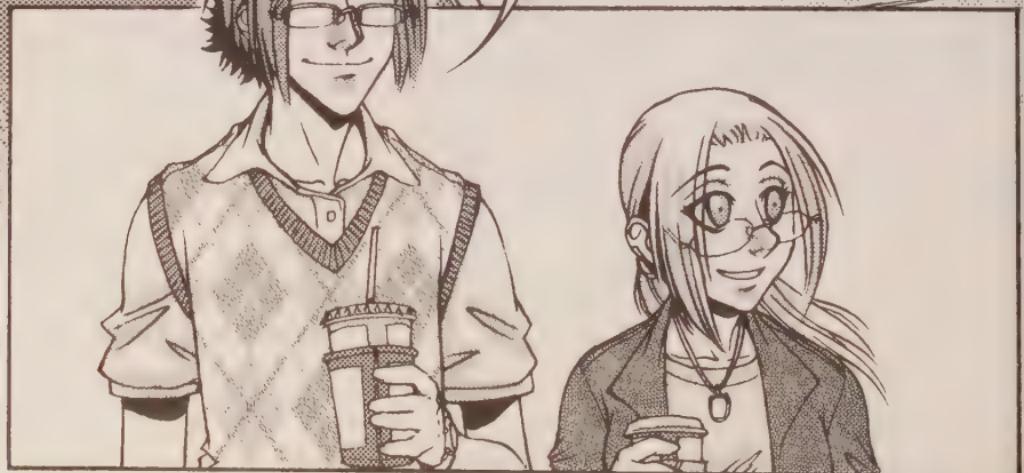
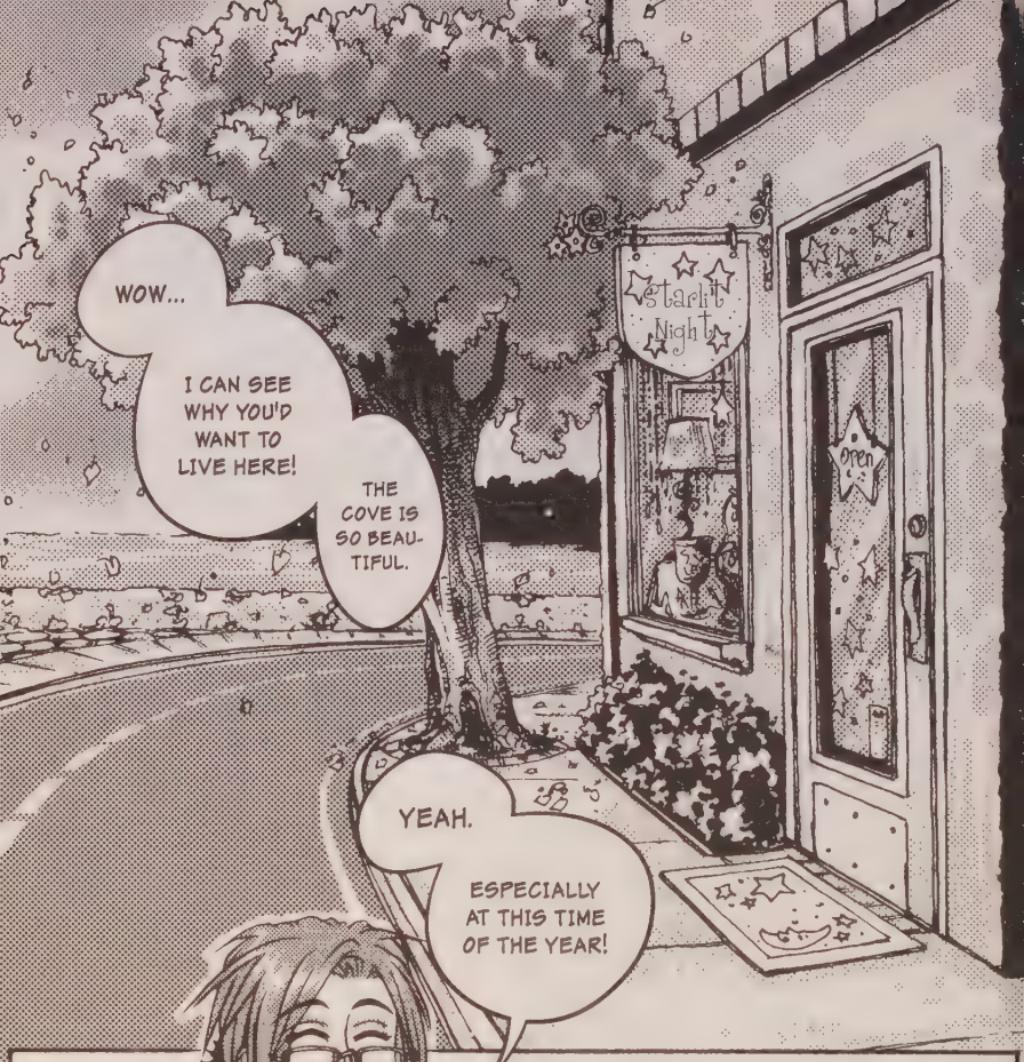
I DIDN'T
HAVE
ANYTHING
ELSE GOING
ON TODAY...

THIS'LL
GIVE ME
SOMETHING
EXCITING
TO DO!

I'LL CATCH
YOU LATER,
TIM!

SEE YA,
EMILY!







MUM AND DAD
USED TO BRING
ME DOWN TO THE
WATERFRONT PARK
FOR PICNICS WHEN
I WAS YOUNG.

SO YOU
GREW UP
HERE,
TOO?

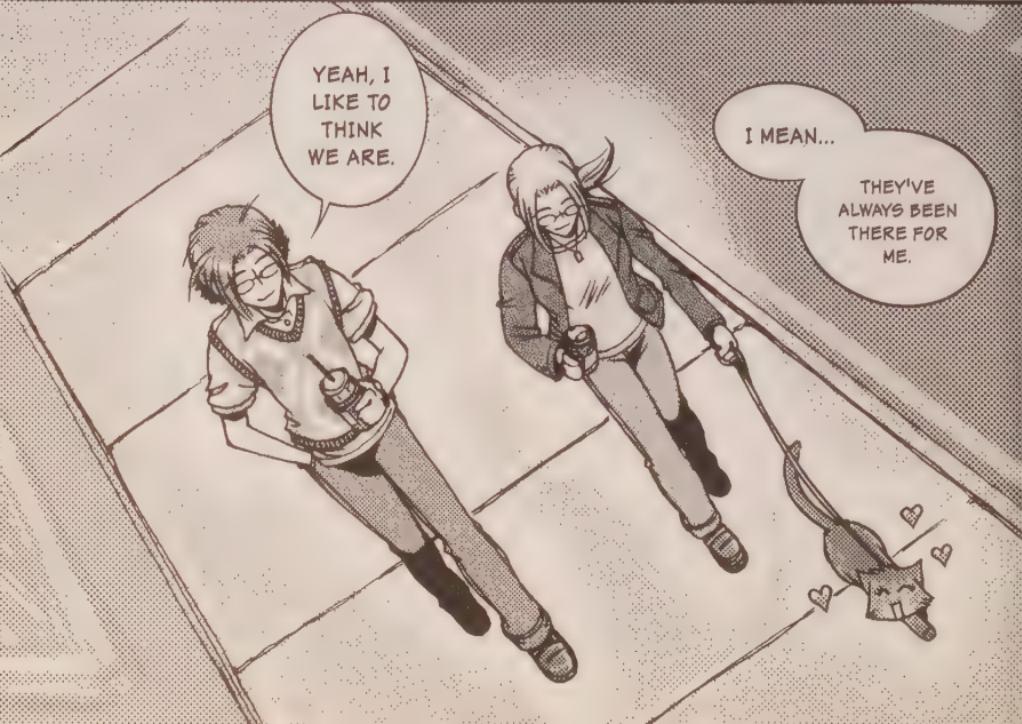
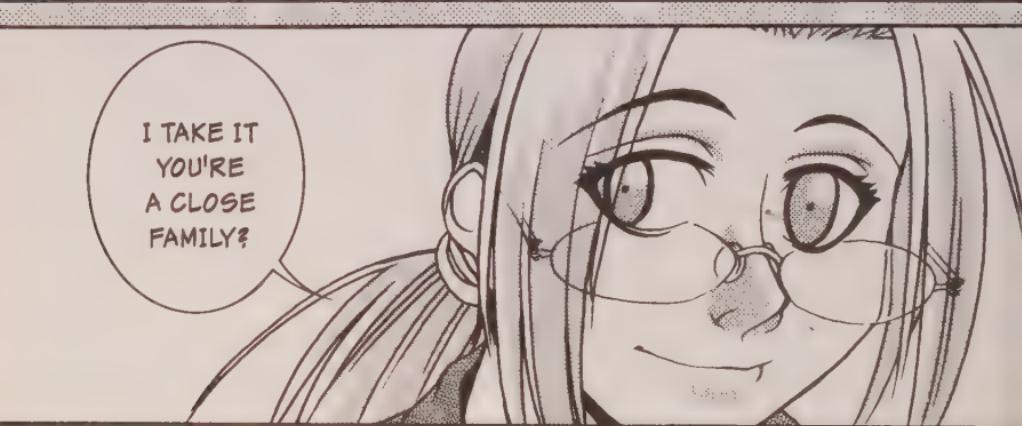
mew!

MUST BE NICE
HAVING THEM
AROUND.

PRETTY
MUCH!

MY PARENTS
LIVE A COUPLE
OF MILES
INLAND.

SO I PRETTY
MUCH STAYED
CLOSE TO
HOME.



EVEN WITH
YOUR ART?

ESPECIALLY
WITH MY ART!

NOW
THAT I THINK
ABOUT IT...

THERE
HASN'T BEEN A
TIME THAT THEY
DIDN'T SUPPORT
MY ART.

REALLY?

HMM...
WONDER
WHY...

EVEN WITH
YOUR ART?

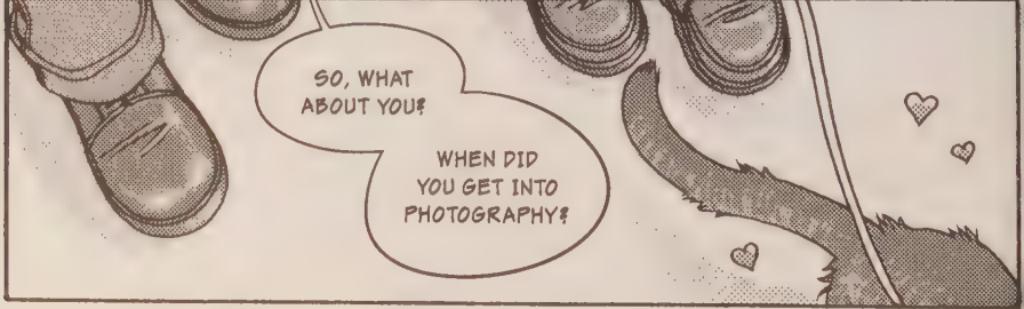
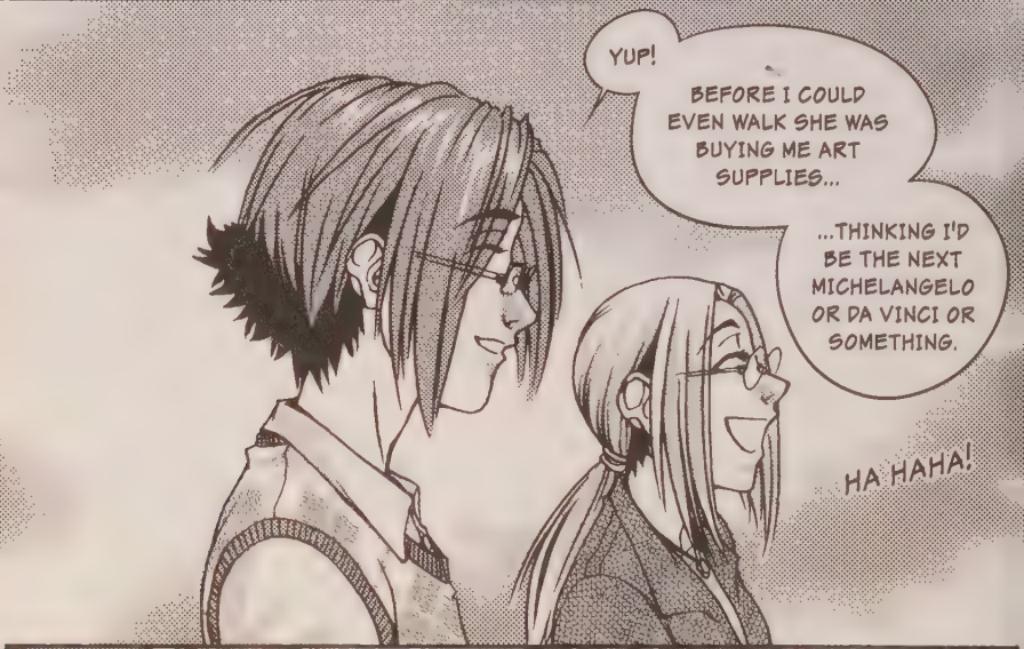
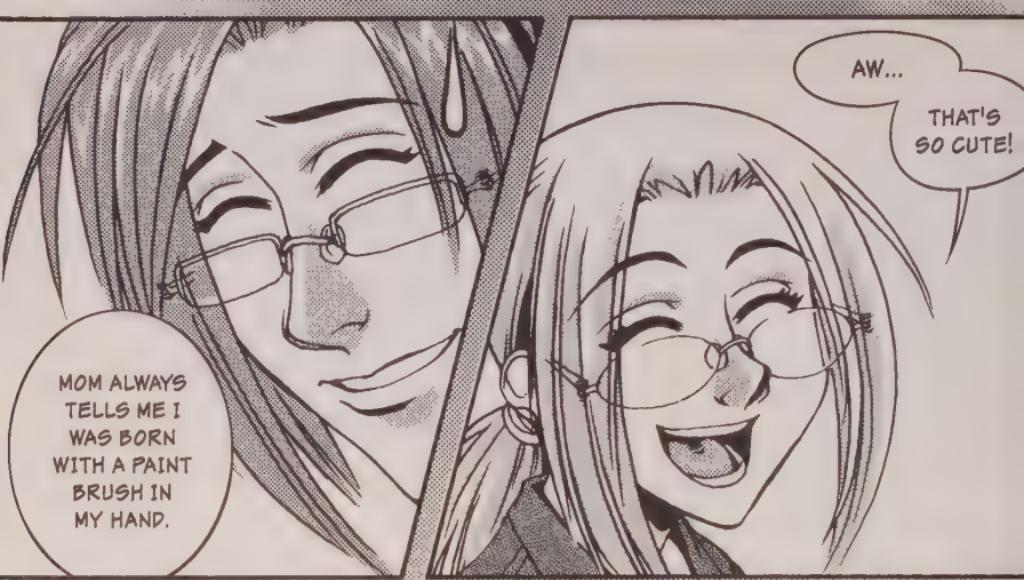
ESPECIALLY
WITH MY ART!

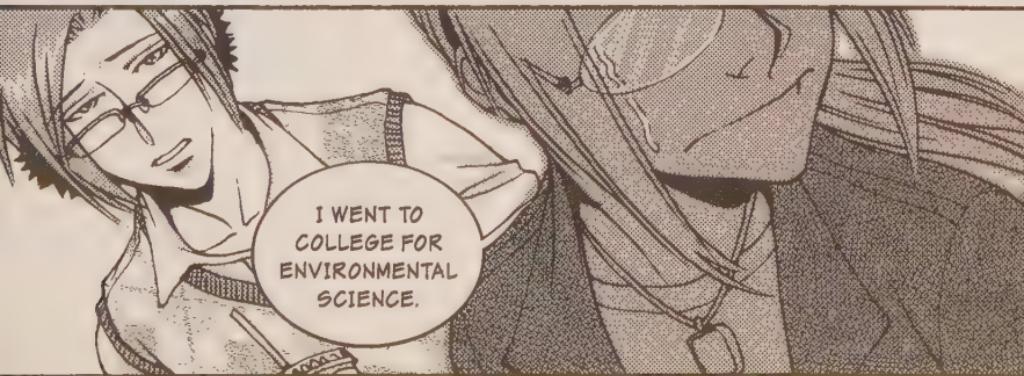
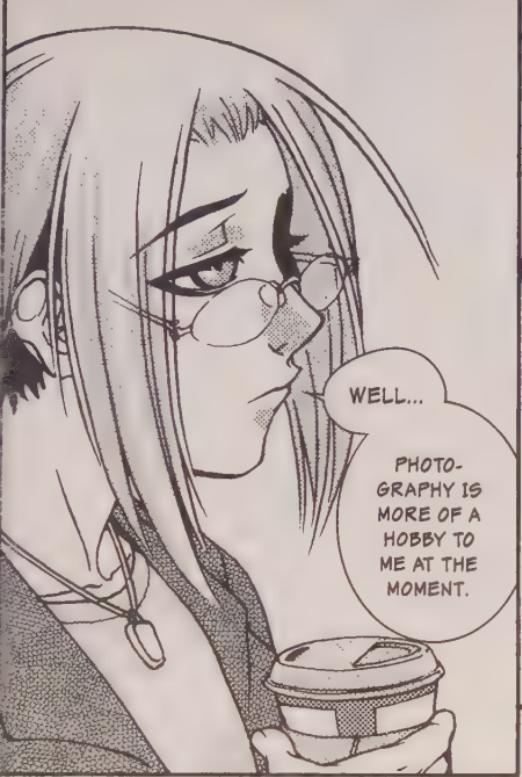
NOW
THAT I THINK
ABOUT IT...

THERE
HASN'T BEEN A
TIME THAT THEY
DIDN'T SUPPORT
MY ART.

REALLY?

HMM...
WONDER
WHY...





LUCIE

ARE YOU
OKAY?

I'M
FINE.

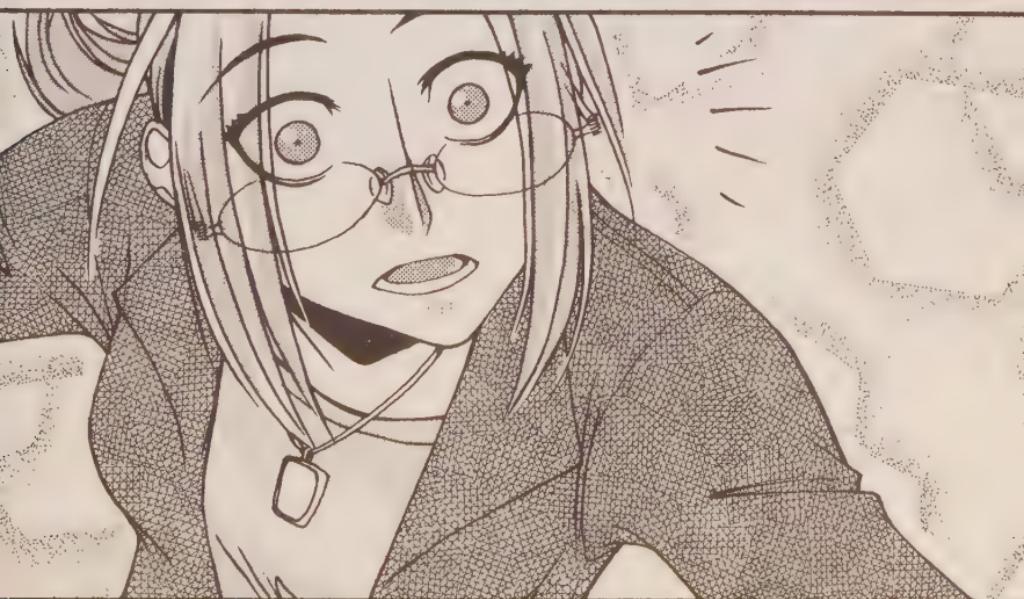
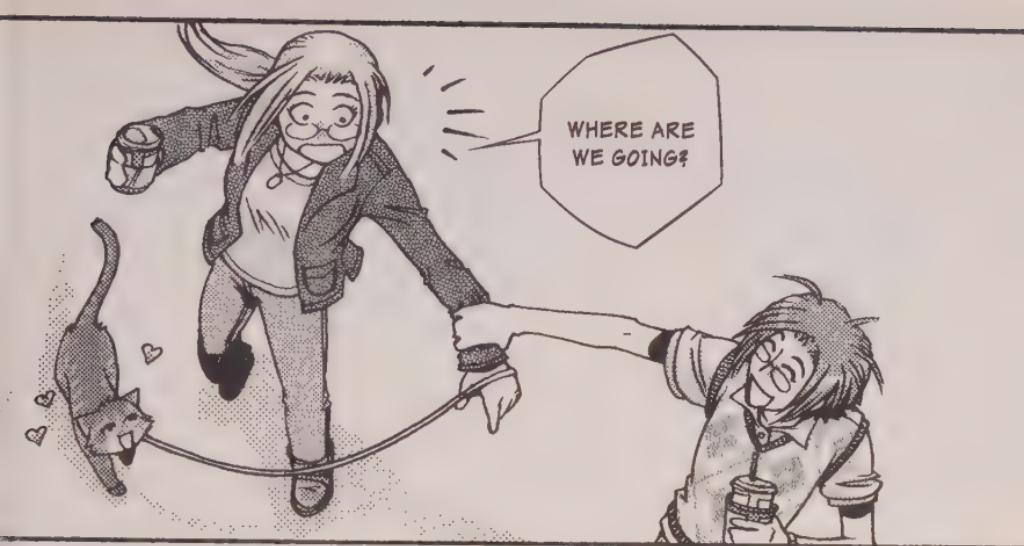
SOMETHING
JUST FLEW
INTO MY
EYE IS ALL.

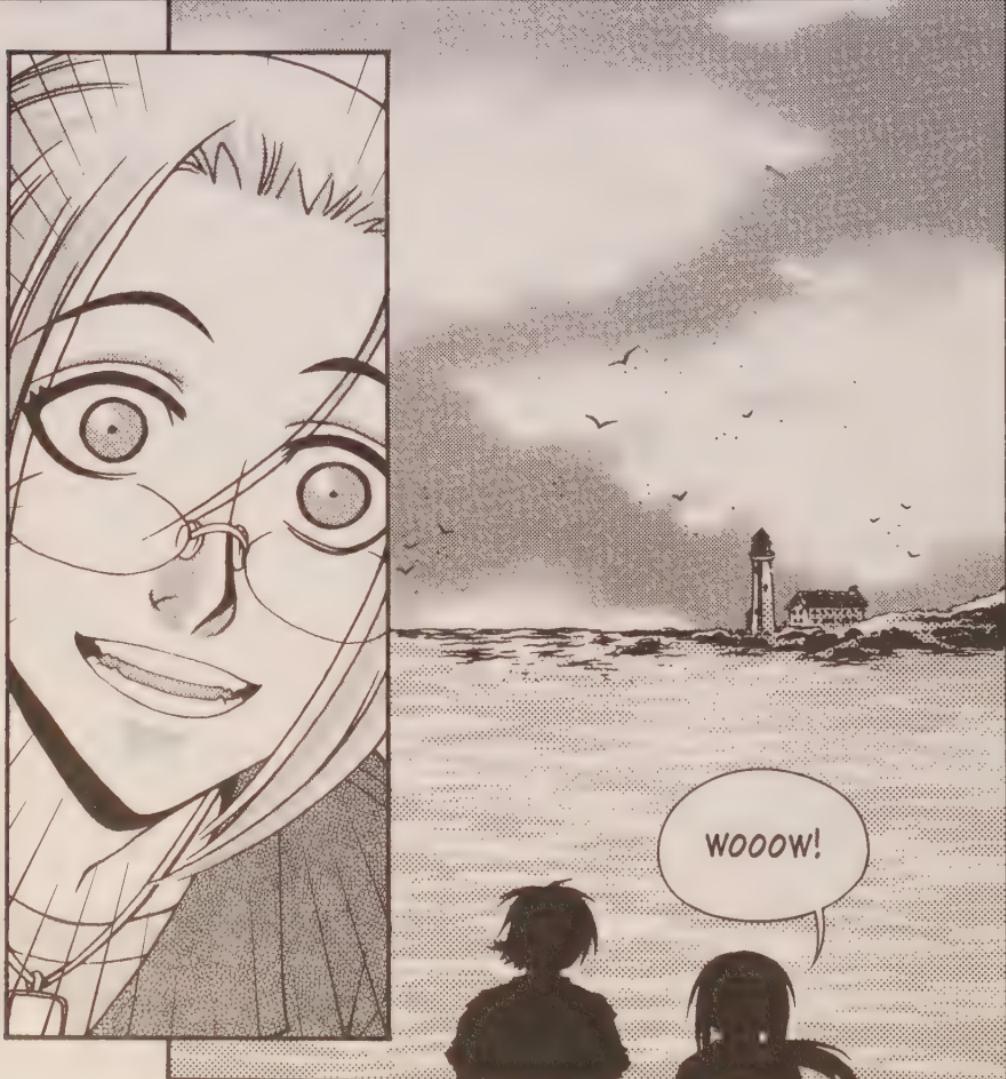
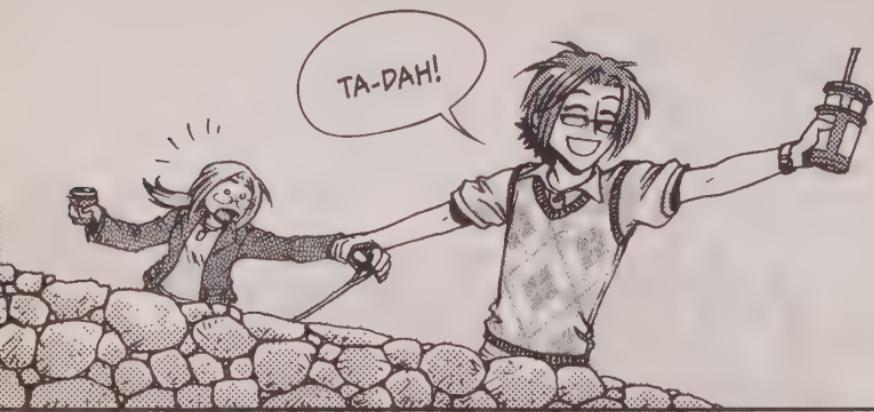
AH!
AMEYA!

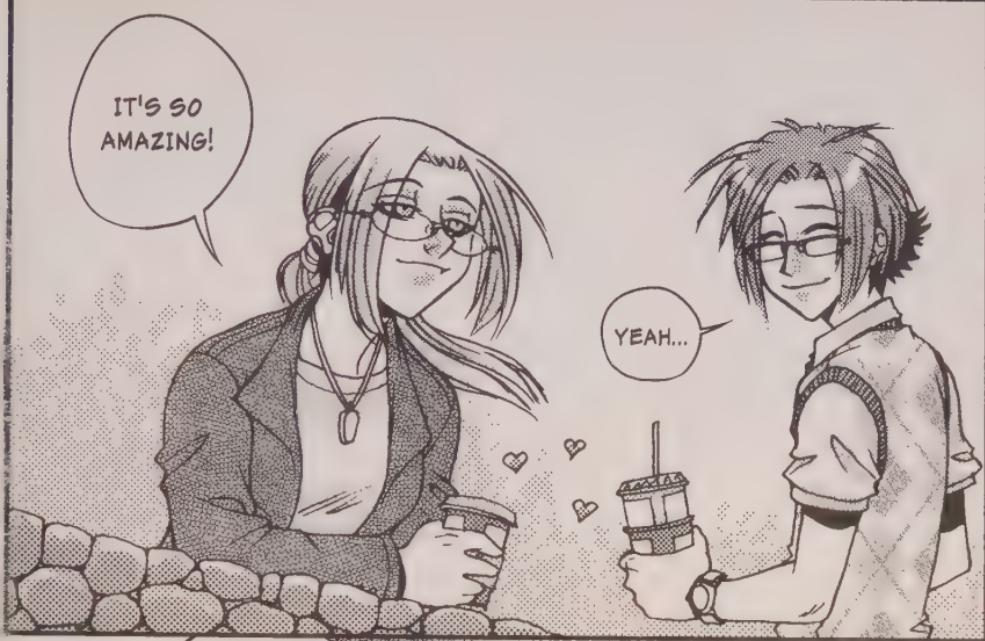
ARE YOU
SURE?

YEAH...I'M
SURE...

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING!







HEH...IT'S
HARD TO
BELIEVE
HOW TIME
FLIES!

YEAH...
I'M SURE!

mew!

mew!

mew!

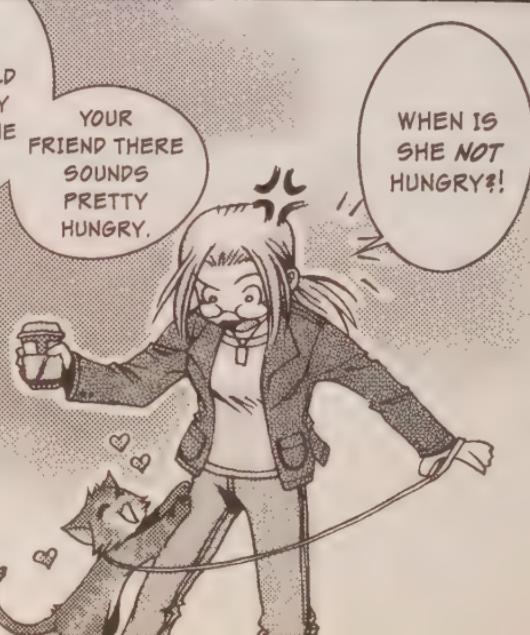
mew!



AAHHH...
WE SHOULD
PROBABLY
GET TO THE
STUDIO.

YOUR
FRIEND THERE
SOUNDS
PRETTY
HUNGRY.

WHEN IS
SHE NOT
HUNGRY?!



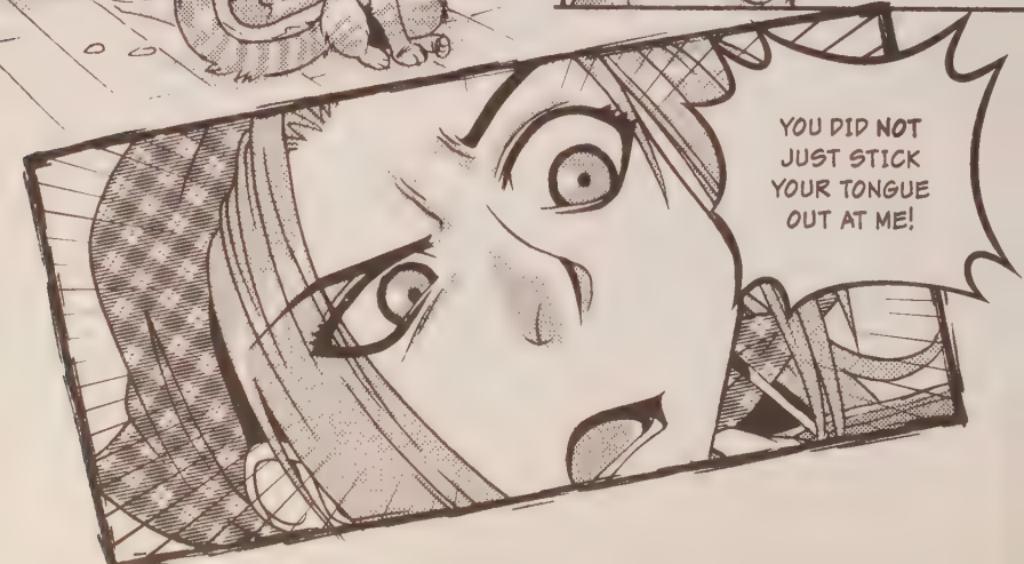
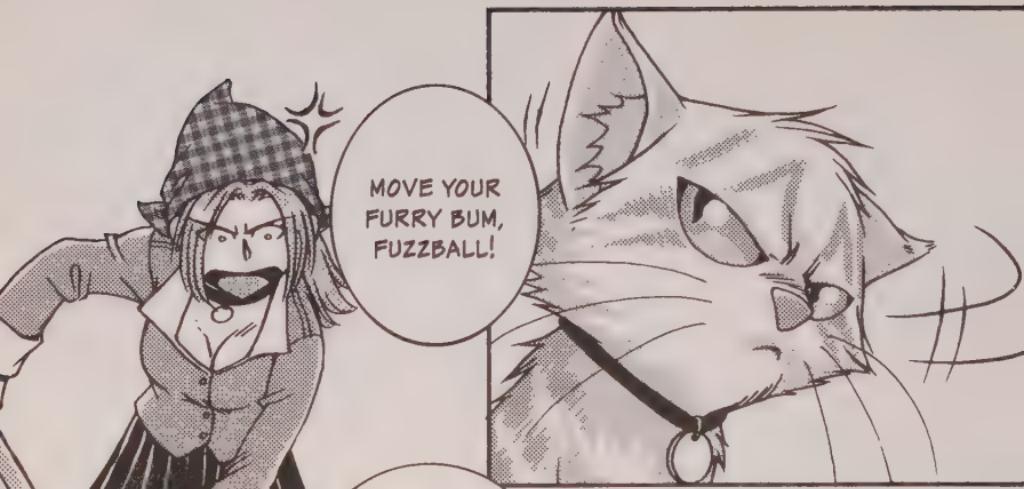
Studio
23

UGH!

COME ON,
LOKI!

DON'T
WALK
THERE!

I JUST
CLEANED
THAT!



COME BACK
HERE, YOU!



THUMP!



WHOA,
THERE!



LOKI,
ARE YOU
OKAY?

Blink
Blink



YEAH...
IF YOU
CALL THIS
"OKAY"!



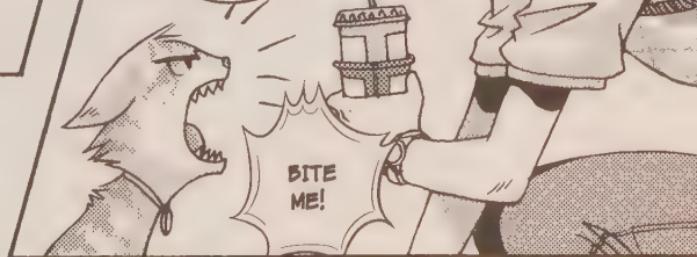
NEED
ANY HELP
GETTING
UP?



I'M PERFECTLY
CAPABLE,
THANK YOU
VERY MUCH!



ARE
YOU STILL
MAD THAT MS.
CHACHA MADE
YOU CLEAN,
TOO?



BITE
ME!



WELL
WELL...

...LOOK WHAT
THE CAT
DRAGGED IN!

UM...

HI, MS. CHACHA!

WHERE
HAVE YOU
BEEN?!

I SPENT ALL
AFTERNOON
CLEANING YOUR
STUDIO AND
ENTERTAINING
YOUR CAT!

YEAH...

BUT YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO KICKED
ME OUT...

...
REMEM-
BER?

AMEYA! IS
EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT
IN HERE?

OH...

MY...

GOD!

...

IF THIS IS A
BAD TIME FOR
YOU TO SHOW
ME AROUND...

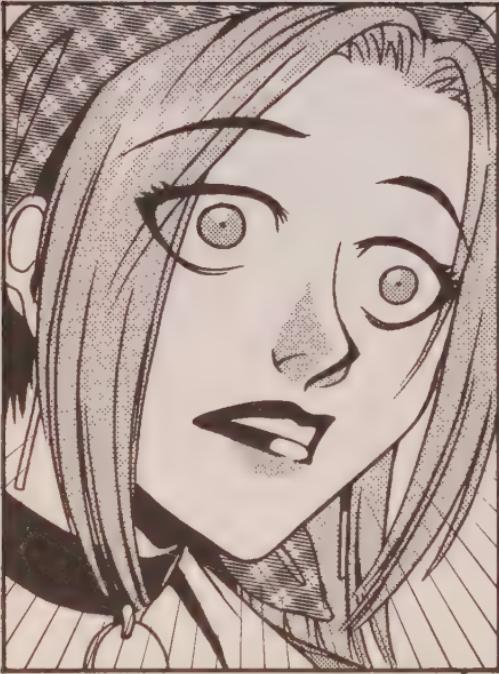
I CAN
COME
BACK...

UH...
NO,
NO!

EVERY-
THING IS
FINE!

mew!





DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT.

EVERYTHING IS JUST...

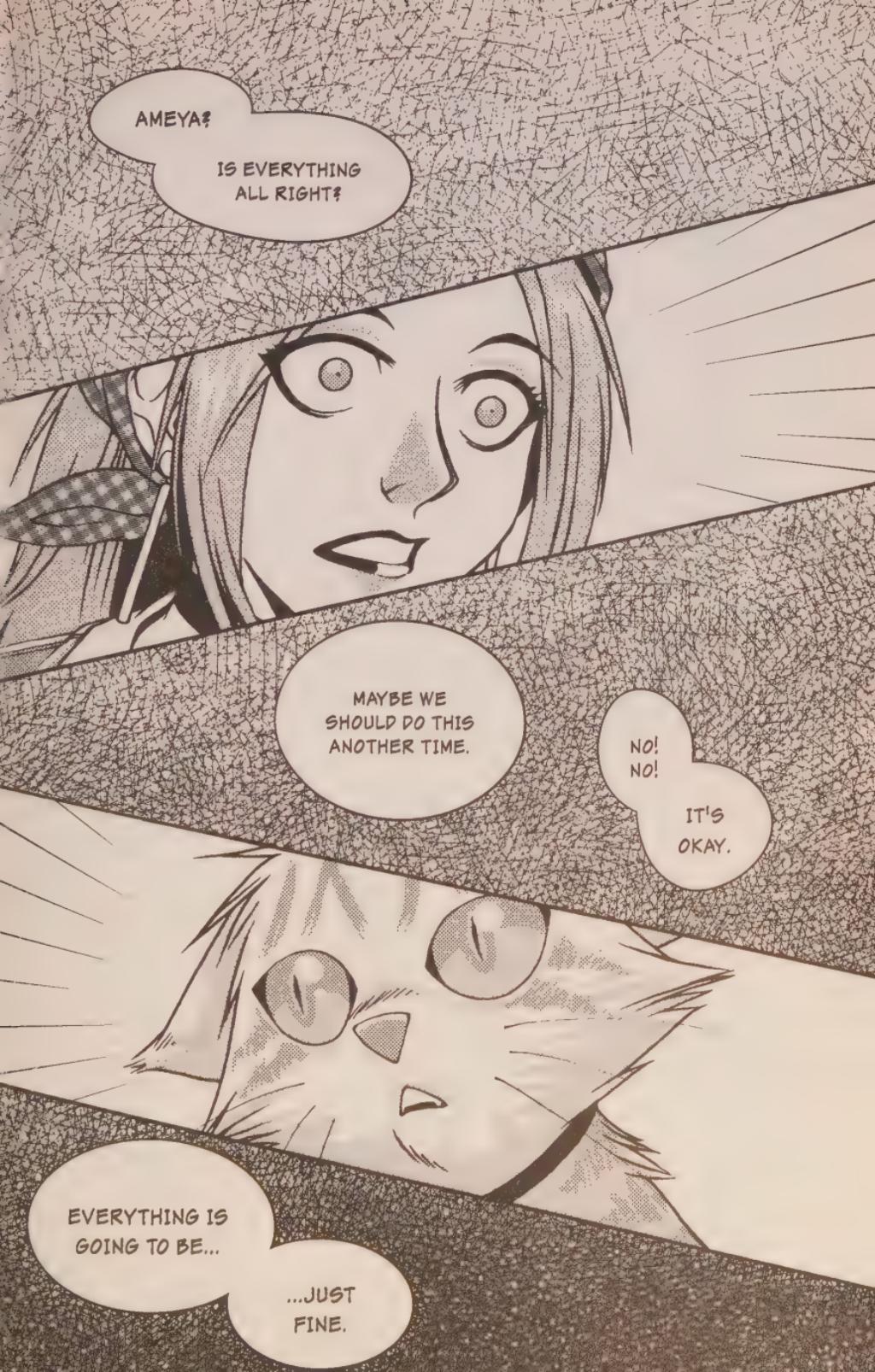
...FINE.



CHAPTER 4







AMEYA?

IS EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT?

MAYBE WE
SHOULD DO THIS
ANOTHER TIME.

NO!
NO!

IT'S
OKAY.

EVERYTHING IS
GOING TO BE...

...JUST
FINE.



THIS
IS
LUCI.

LUCI, THIS IS
MS. CHACHA.

HI, THERE!
NICE TO MEET
YOU, MA'AM.

YEAH...

NICE TO
MEET YOU,
TOO.

"MA'AM?!"
WHO IS SHE
CALLING
"MA'AM?!"

SO TELL
ME, AMEYA...

DID YOU FIND
HER IN THE
PARK, TOO?

OR DID
SHE JUST
FOLLOW
YOU HOME?

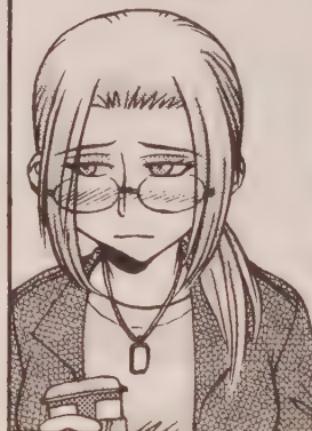
OH...
AH...
NO.

WE MET AT THE
CAFÉ...WELL...
MORE LIKE
WE BUMPED
INTO EACH
OTHER, BUT...



ANYWAY...

SHE'S A
PHOTOGRAPHER
AND JUST MOVED
TO THE COVE, SO
SHE'S LOOKING
FOR A PLACE TO
SHOW HER WORK.



SINCE I HAVE THE
ROOM, I OFFERED
HER SOME SPACE
IN THE GALLERY.
SO, I BROUGHT
HER BACK HERE TO
TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

YEAH,
I'M
SURE.

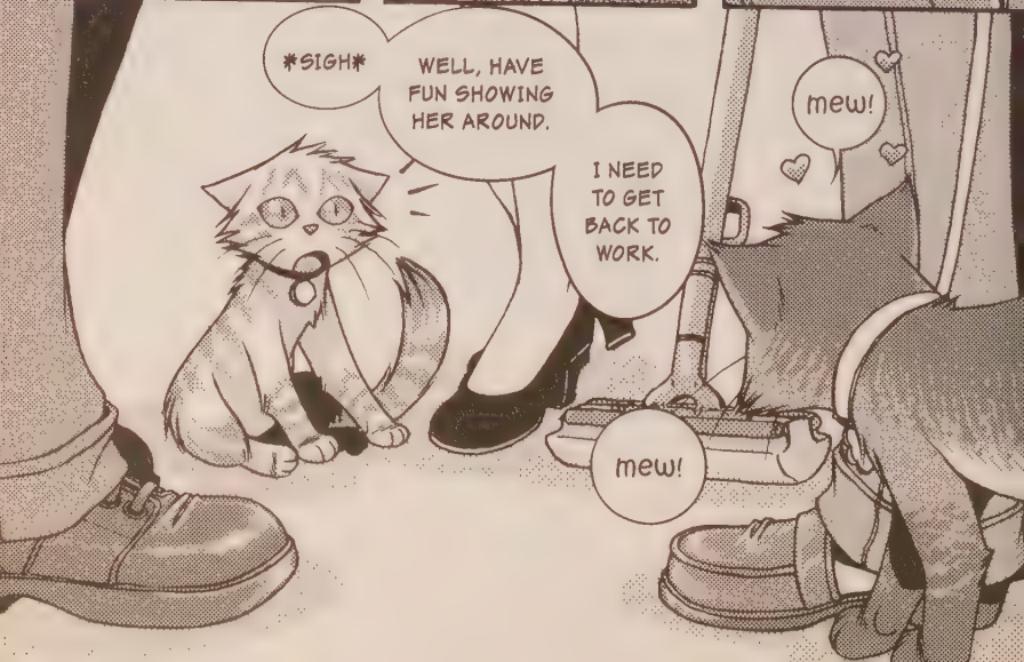


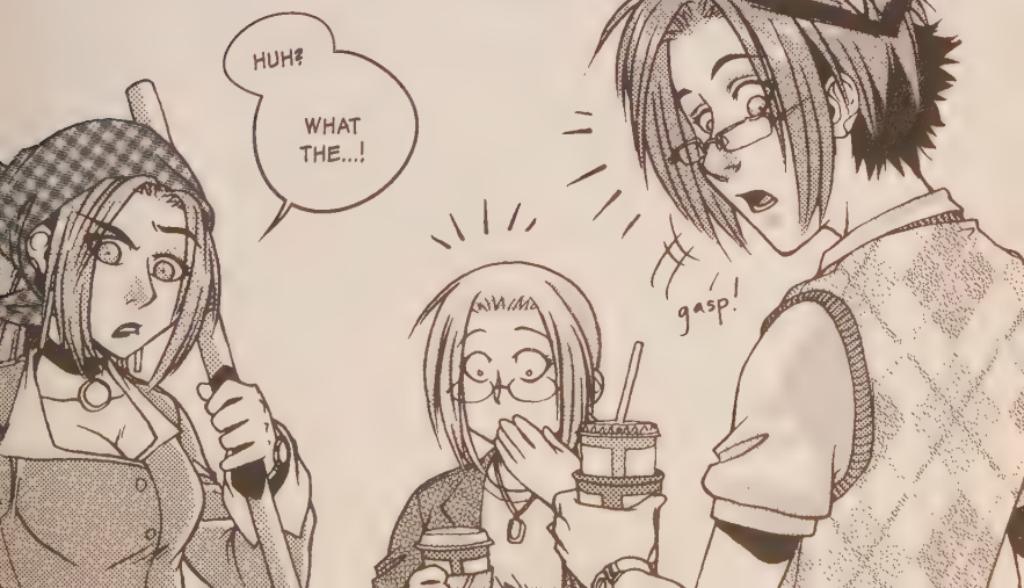
SIGH

WELL, HAVE
FUN SHOWING
HER AROUND.

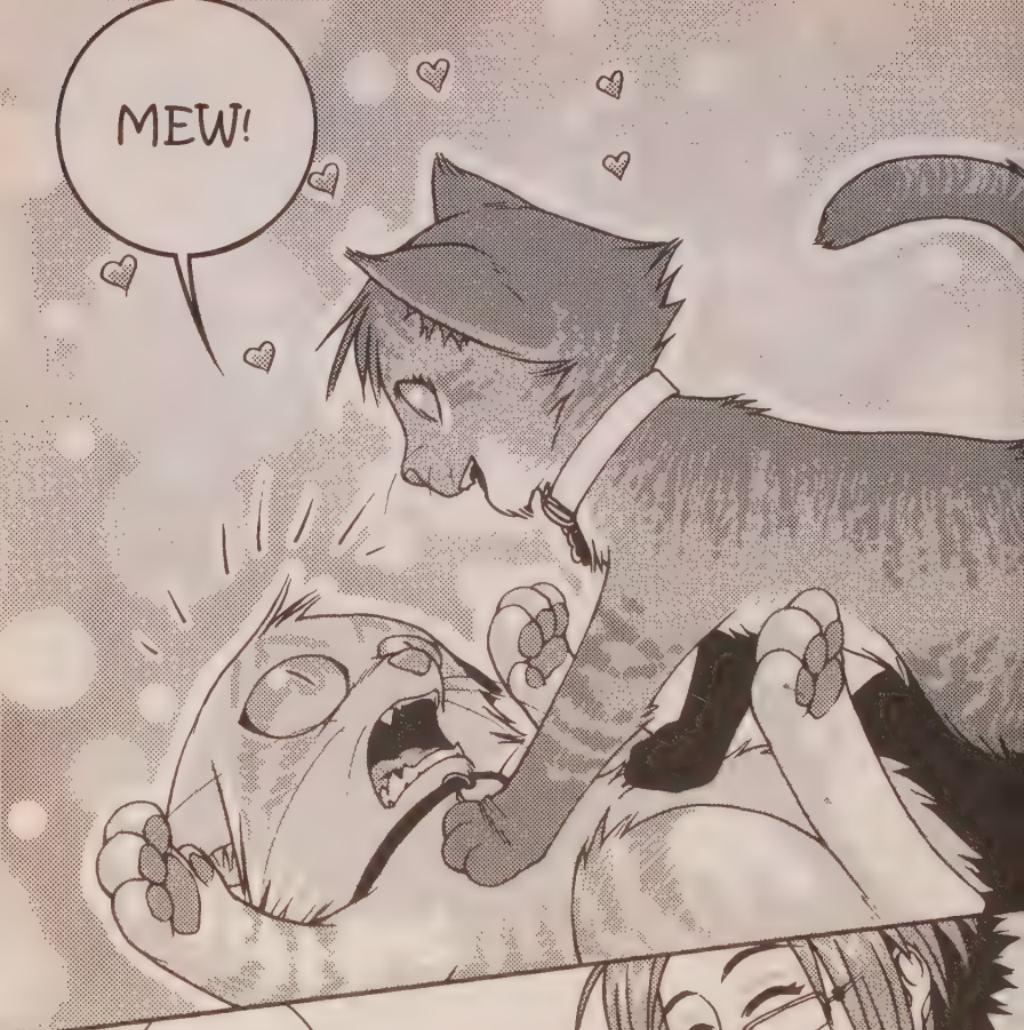
I NEED
TO GET
BACK TO
WORK.

mew!





MEW!



HEY, NOW!
LOOKS
LIKE CALLI
FOUND
LOK!!

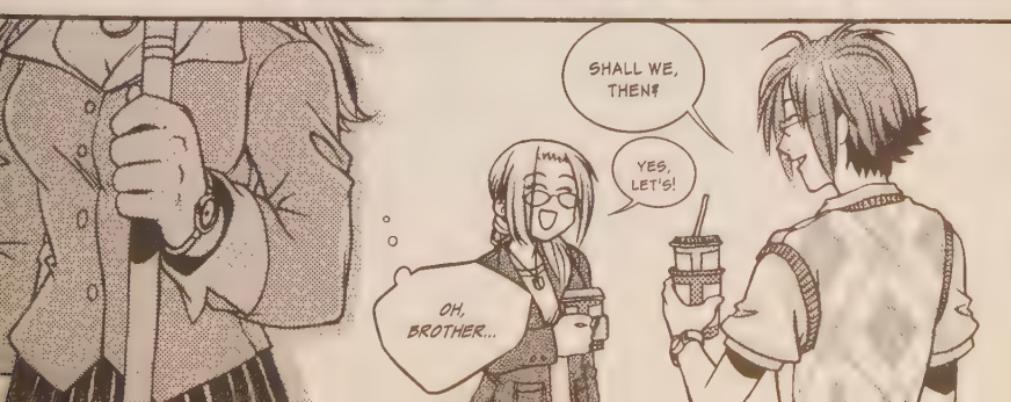
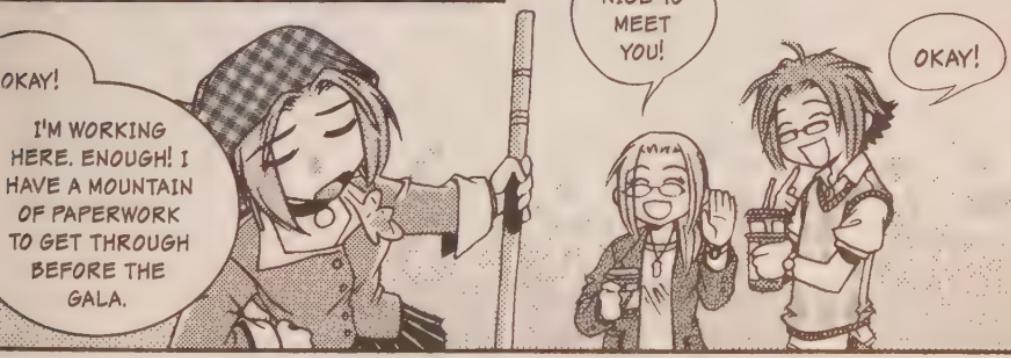
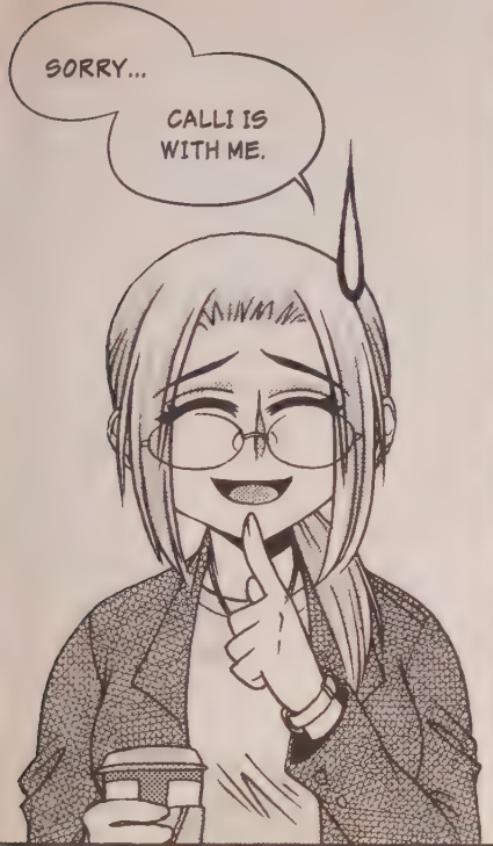
I WAS
WONDERING
HOW LONG
IT'D TAKE
HER.



AMEYA! DON'T
TELL ME YOU
BROUGHT HOME
ANOTHER CAT!

OH...
UM...





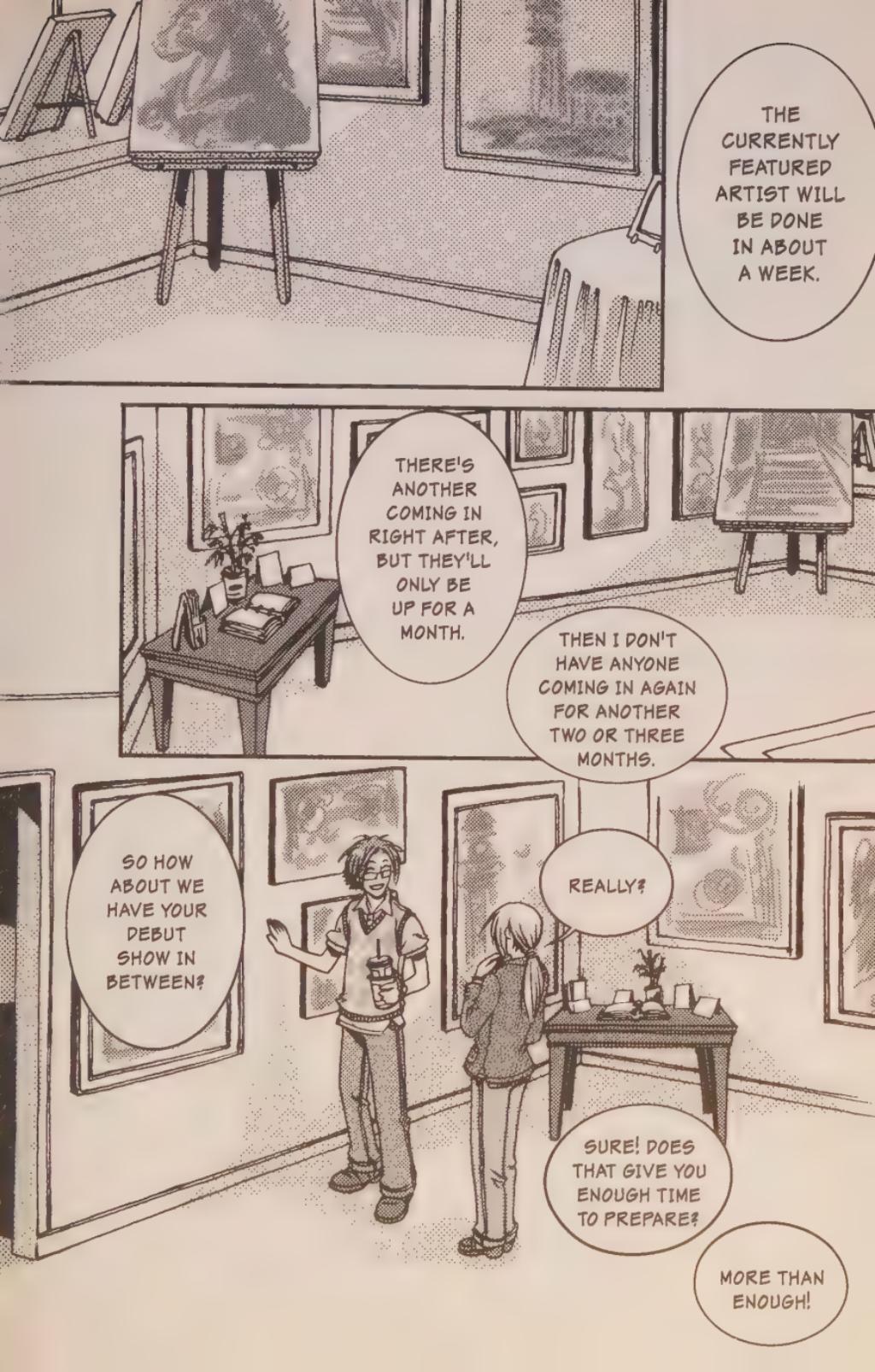
AS FOR
YOU TWO!

I SPENT HOURS
CLEANING THIS
PLACE UP!

DON'T
YOU
DARE
MAKE A
MESS!

OR ELSE!

mew!



THE CURRENTLY FEATURED ARTIST WILL BE DONE IN ABOUT A WEEK.

THERE'S ANOTHER COMING IN RIGHT AFTER, BUT THEY'LL ONLY BE UP FOR A MONTH.

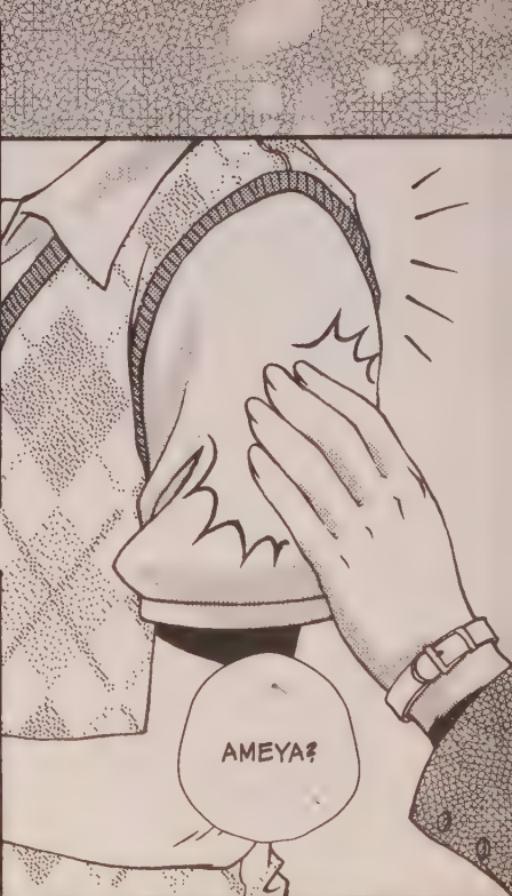
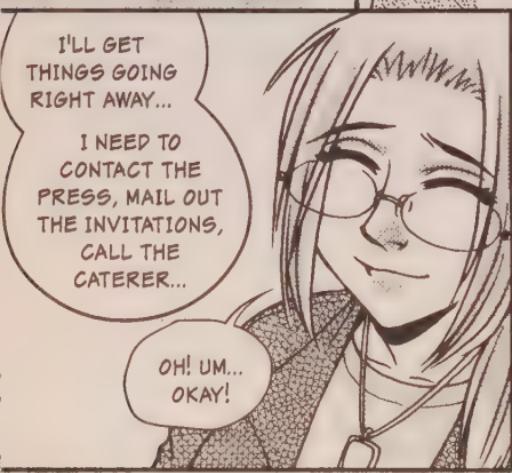
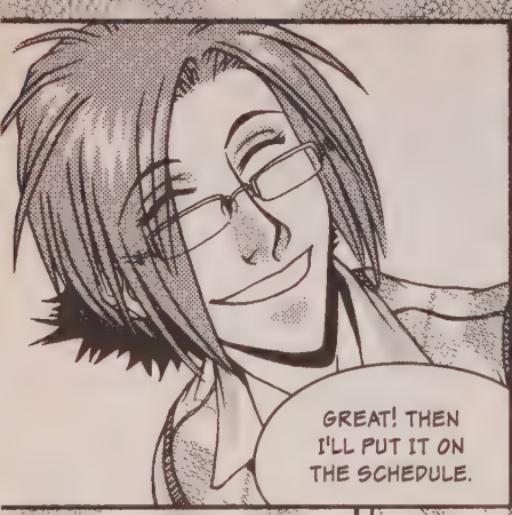
THEN I DON'T HAVE ANYONE COMING IN AGAIN FOR ANOTHER TWO OR THREE MONTHS.

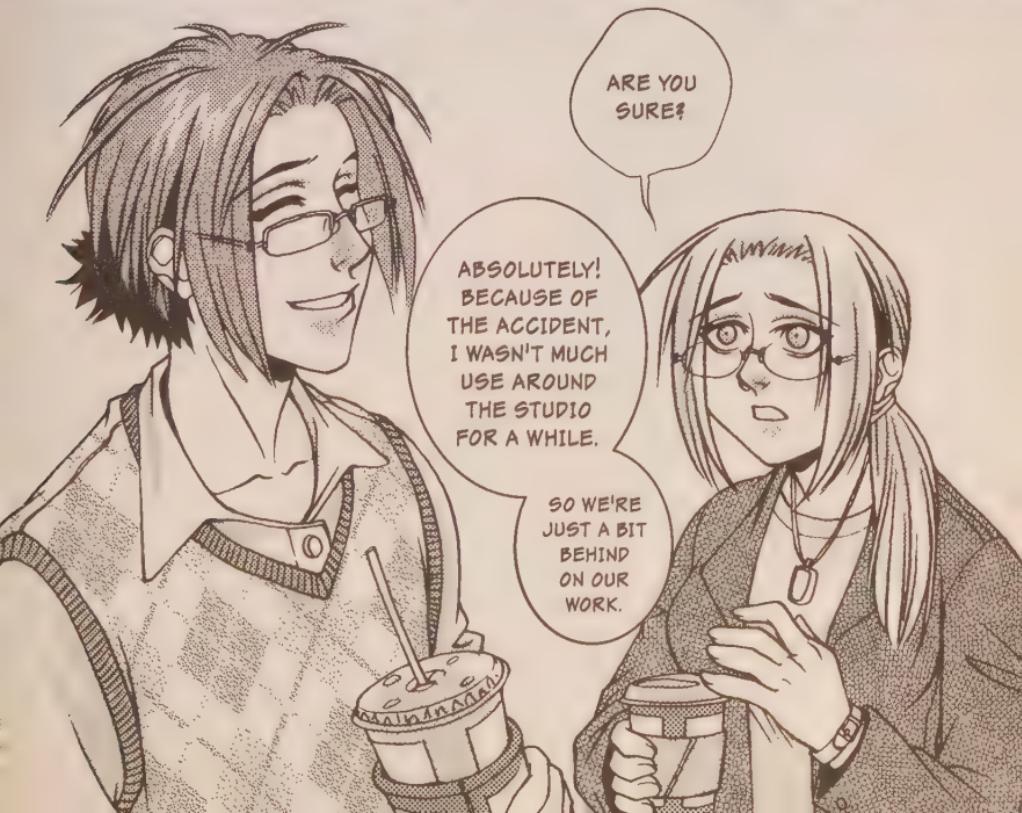
SO HOW ABOUT WE HAVE YOUR DEBUT SHOW IN BETWEEN?

REALLY?

SURE! DOES THAT GIVE YOU ENOUGH TIME TO PREPARE?

MORE THAN ENOUGH!





I GUESS
SHE'S
BEEN A
LITTLE
STRESSED
LATELY
BECAUSE
OF IT.

I THOUGHT
SHE WAS
JEALOUS
OF ME!

PHEW! THAT'S
GOOD, 'CAUSE
FOR A SECOND
THERE...

AH HA HA HA!

MS. CHACHA?!
JEALOUS?!

THAT'S TOO
MUCH!

I REALLY
WOULDN'T
WORRY. MS.
CHACHA HAS
NEVER BEEN
JEALOUS OF
ANYTHING.

AT LEAST, NOT
AS LONG AS I'VE
KNOWN HER.

I HOPE
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

ACTUALLY, I'M MORE
WORRIED ABOUT
LOKI AND CALLI...



GET OFF
OF ME!

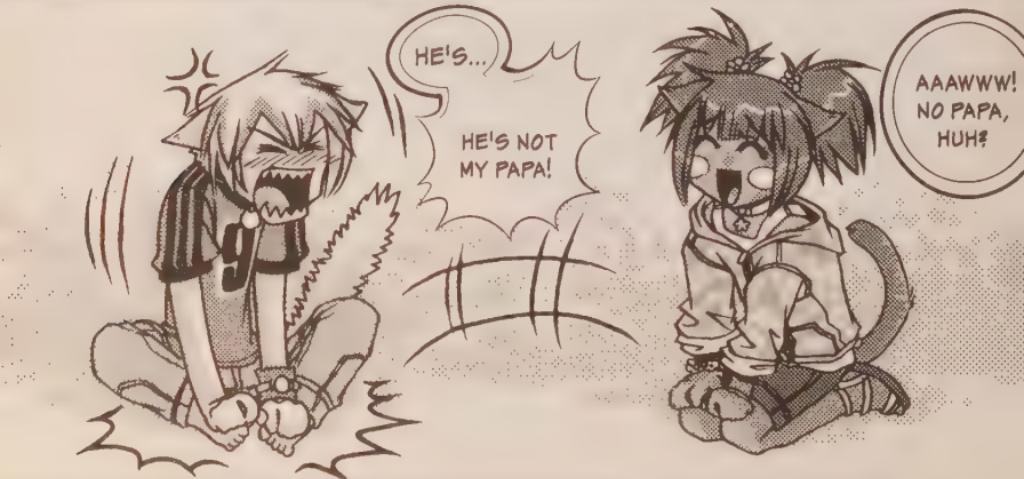
AAAAAWWWWW!

BUT CALLI
WANTS TO
PLAY!



YEAH, WELL
I DON'T!

SO
SCRAM!



AH! I'VE
GOT IT!

THEN
HE'S YOUR
FRIEND!

HE'S NOT MY
FRIEND...

I DON'T HAVE
ANY FRIENDS.

YOU DON'T
HAVE ANY
FRIENDS?
AAAAGH!

AH-HAH! HOW
ABOUT THIS?

CALLI WILL BE
YOUR FRIEND
THEN! TEE HEE!

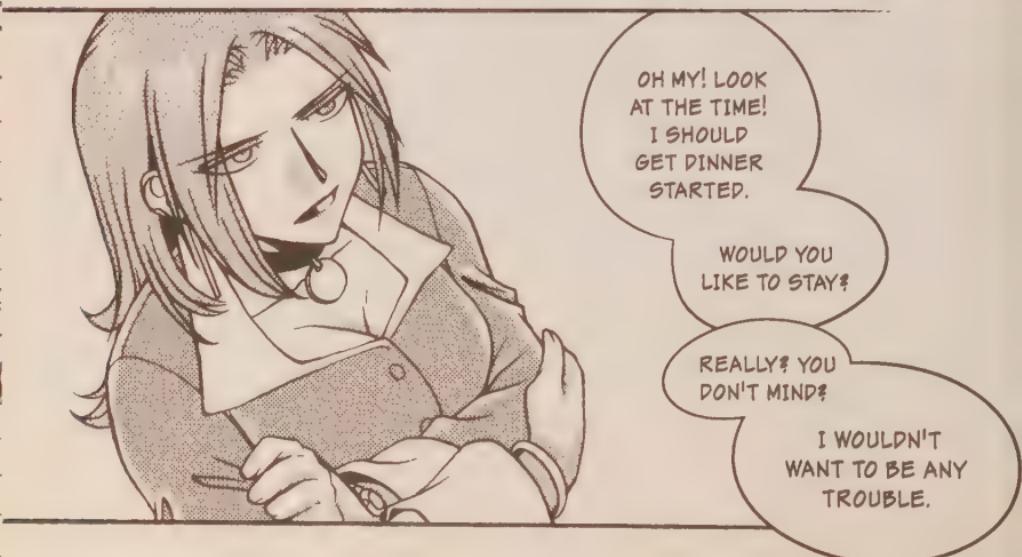
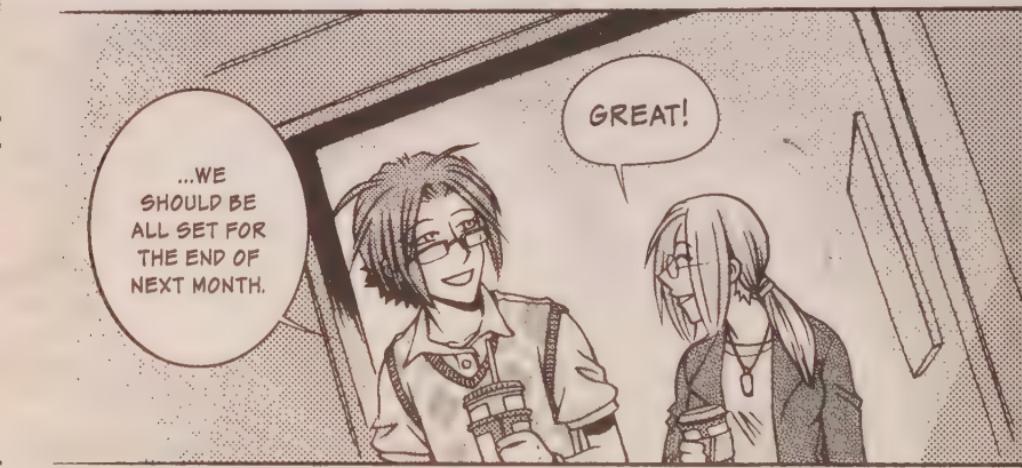
HUH?
???

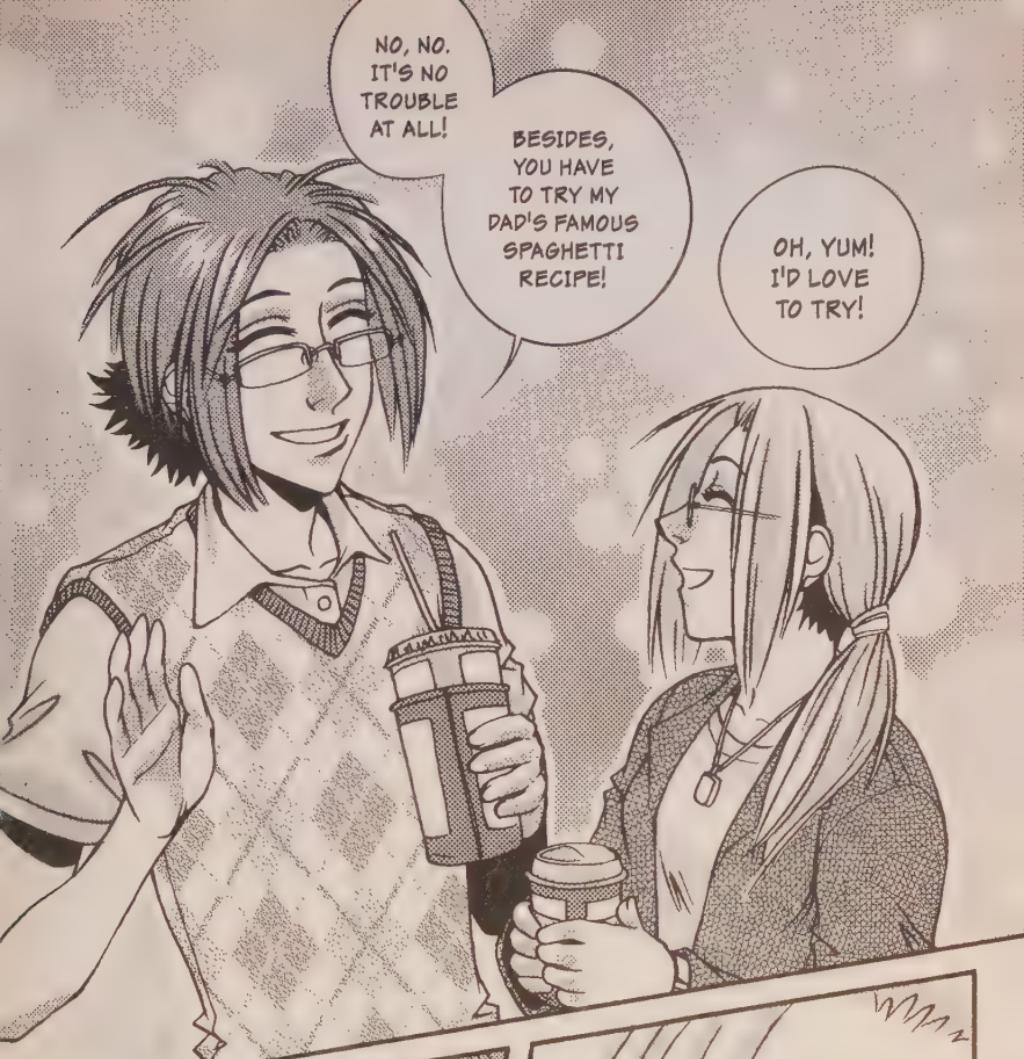
OH
NONONONO!

YAY!

CALLI HAS A
NEW FRIEND!



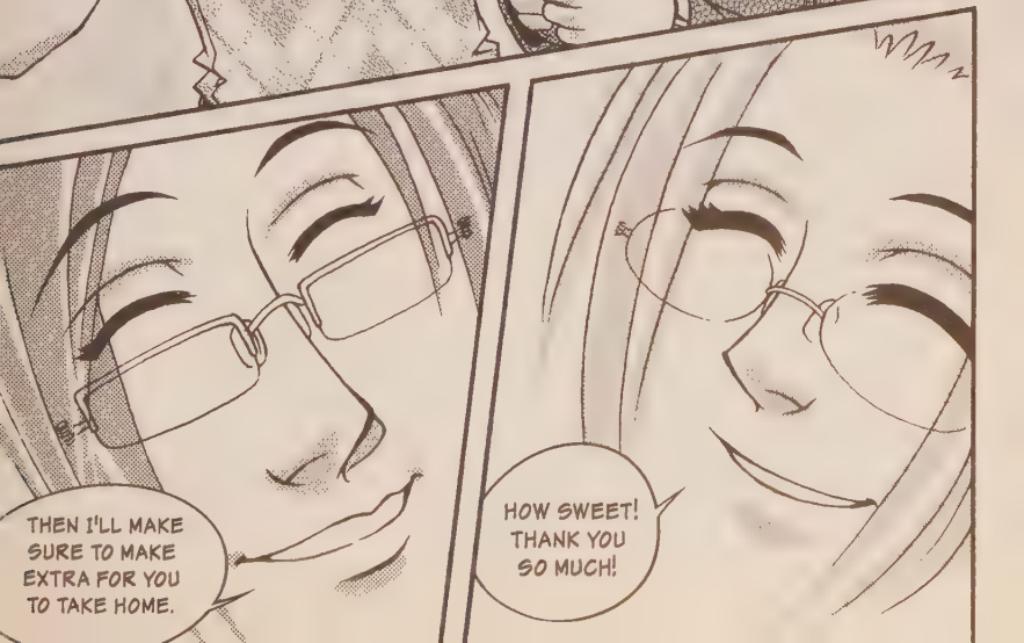




NO, NO.
IT'S NO
TROUBLE
AT ALL!

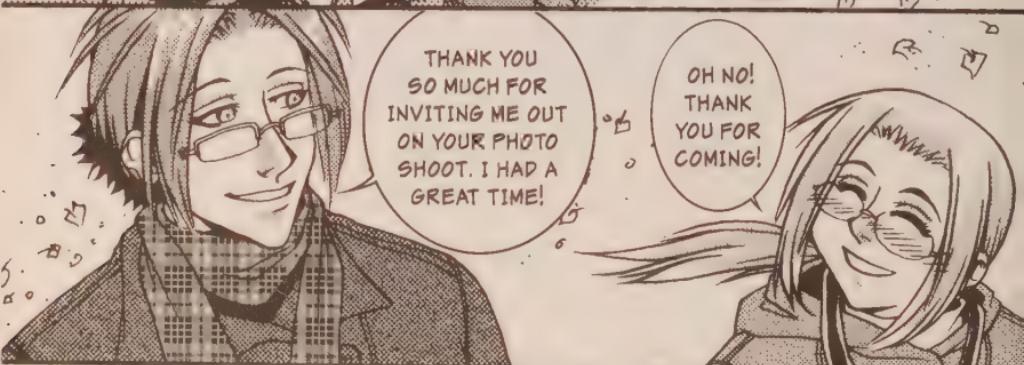
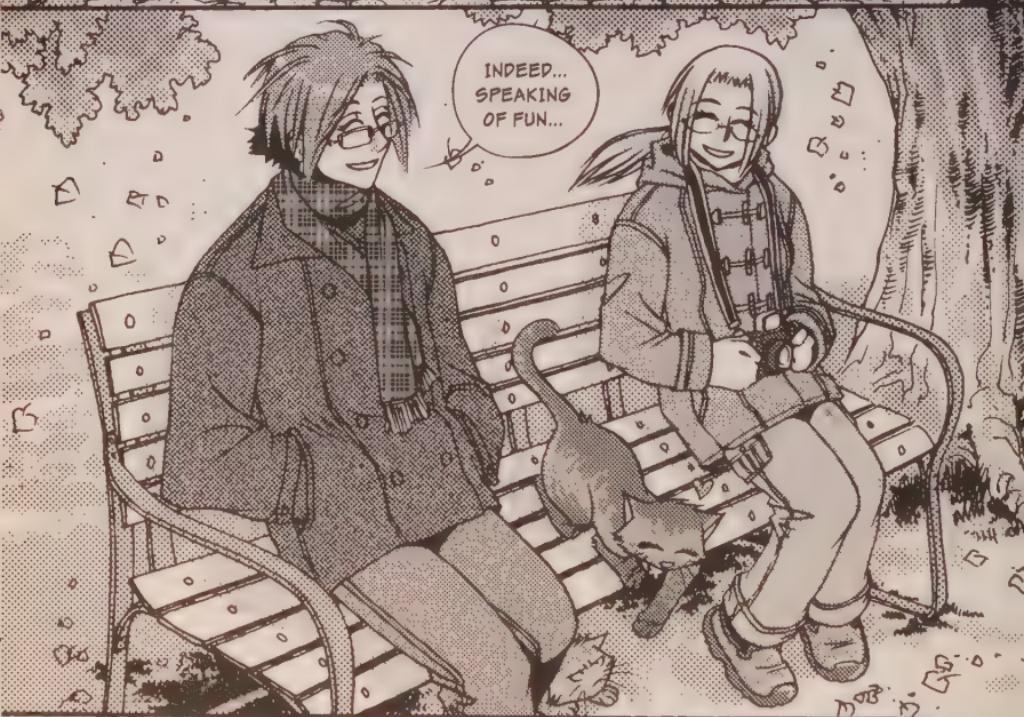
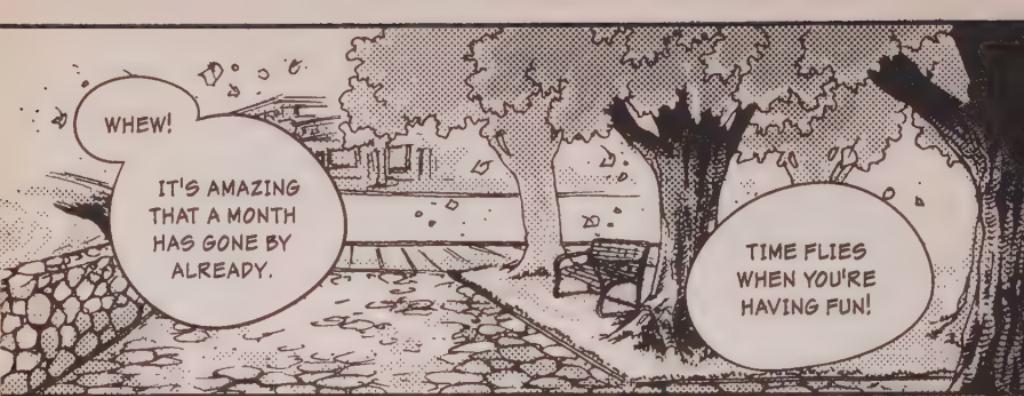
BESIDES,
YOU HAVE
TO TRY MY
DAD'S FAMOUS
SPAGHETTI
RECIPE!

OH, YUM!
I'D LOVE
TO TRY!



THEN I'LL MAKE
SURE TO MAKE
EXTRA FOR YOU
TO TAKE HOME.

HOW SWEET!
THANK YOU
SO MUCH!





IF YOU'RE
INTERESTED,
YOU CAN COME
WITH ME TO
THE LAST
SHOOT BEFORE
THE SHOW
NEXT WEEK.

REALLY?
I'D LOVE TO!



AWW...
COME ON,
LOKI!

COME ON
OUT AND
PLAY!



GREAT! THEN
I'LL MEET YOU
IN FRONT OF
CAFÉ COMET
ON TUESDAY
AROUND 2 P.M.

GET
LOST!

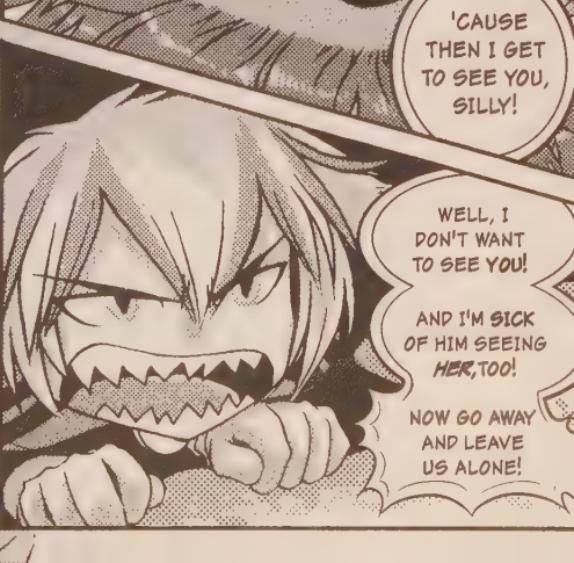


WHY ARE YOU
ALWAYS HERE
WHEN SHE IS!!



TEE HEE!

'CAUSE
THEN I GET
TO SEE YOU,
SILLY!



WELL, I
DON'T WANT
TO SEE YOU!

AND I'M SICK
OF HIM SEEING
HER, TOO!

NOW GO AWAY
AND LEAVE
US ALONE!

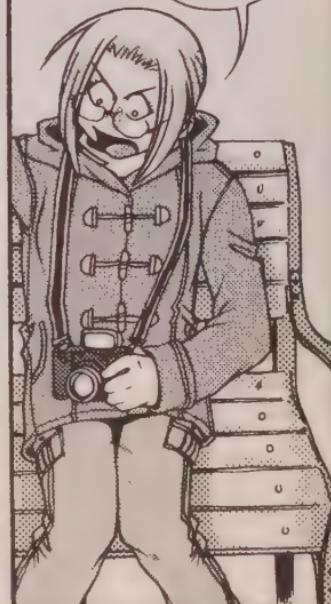
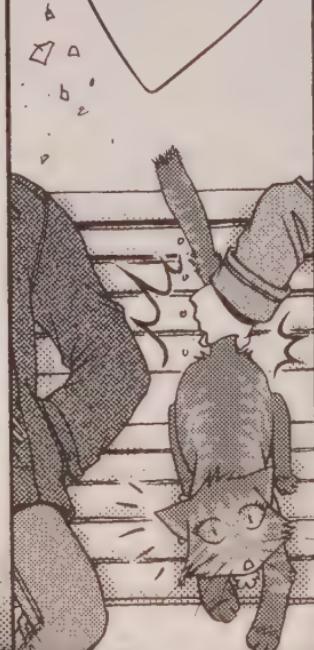


flick
flick

HEH...

ACK!
CALL!
LEAVE
LOKI BE!

YOU'RE
GONNA FALL
OFF OF THE
BENCH!



AND SPEAKING
OF LEAVING, I
UNFORTUNATELY
NEED TO HEAD
HOME.

HUH?
REALLY?



ARE YOU
SURE YOU
CAN'T STAY
A LITTLE
LONGER?

mew?

I WOULD
LOVE TO STAY
LONGER...

...BUT I HAVE
SOME LOOSE ENDS
I WANT TO TIE UP
BEFORE YOUR
SHOW.

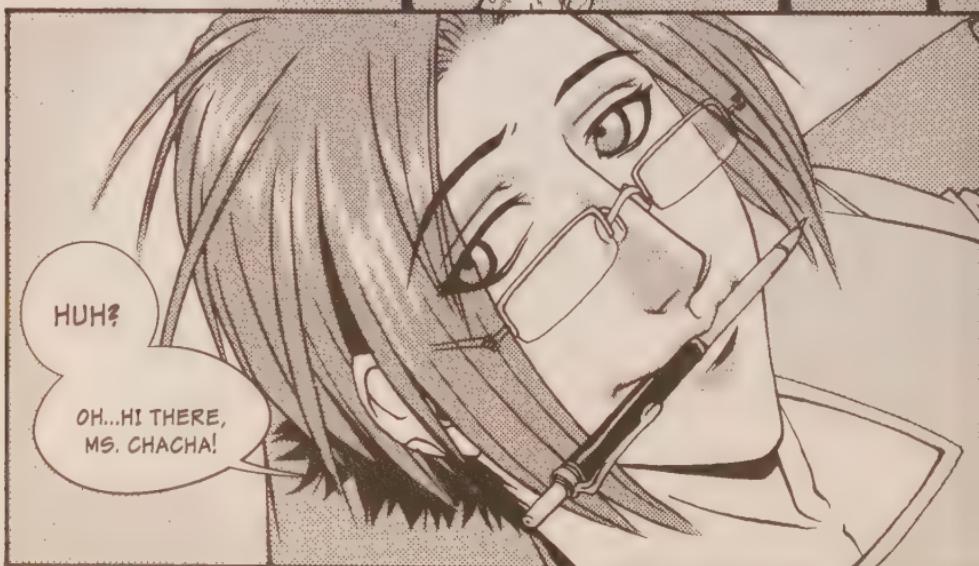
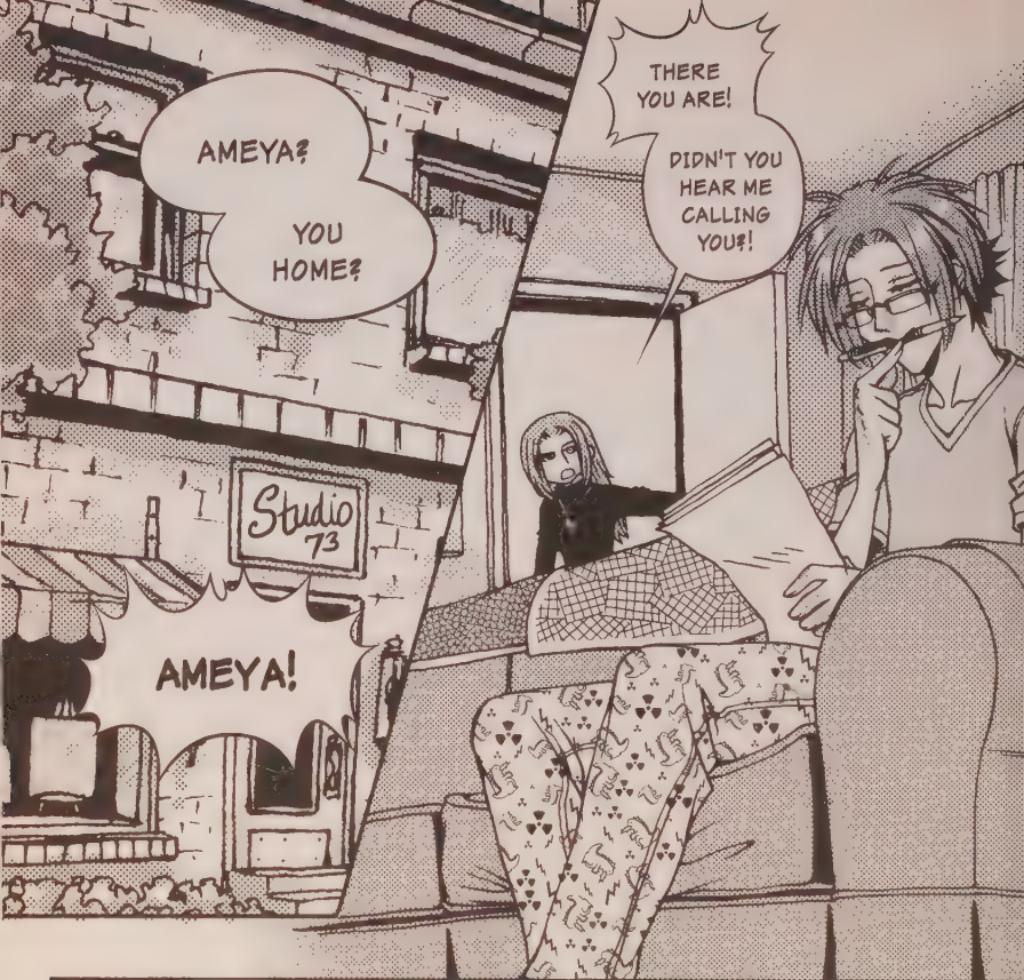
BUT NO
WORRIES!
I WILL
DEFINITELY
MEET YOU
TUESDAY
FOR YOUR
SHOOT.

I'LL
SEE YOU
THEN!

SIGH...
YOU KNOW,
CALLI...

I COULD
ALMOST FALL
FOR A MAN
LIKE HIM.

TAKE
CARE!





SORRY ABOUT
THAT. I WAS SO
WRAPPED UP
IN STUFF FOR
LUCI'S SHOW
THAT I DIDN'T
HEAR YOU.



AND TOO WRAPPED
UP TO CHANGE OUT
OF HIS PAJAMAS
TOO, I SEE!



OH, YEAH...



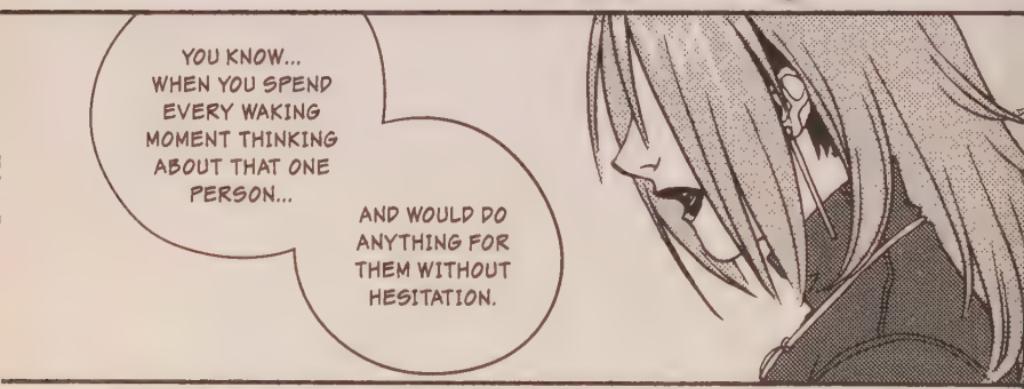
ABOUT THAT.

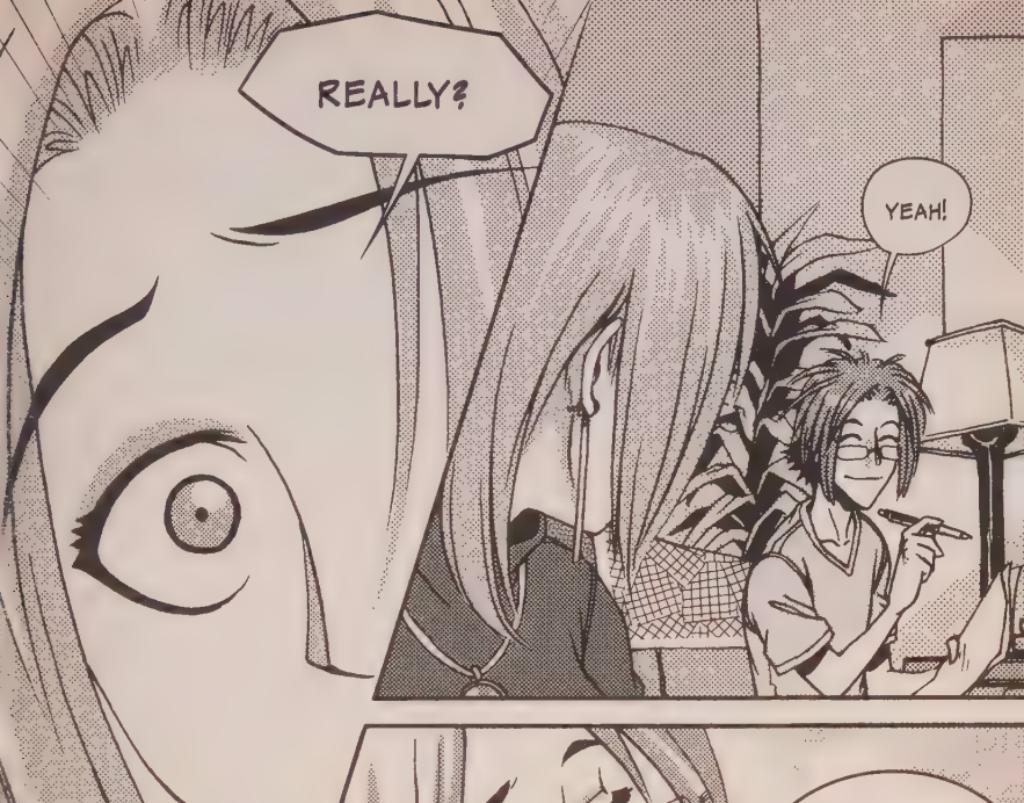


AMEYA...



WE NEED
TO TALK.





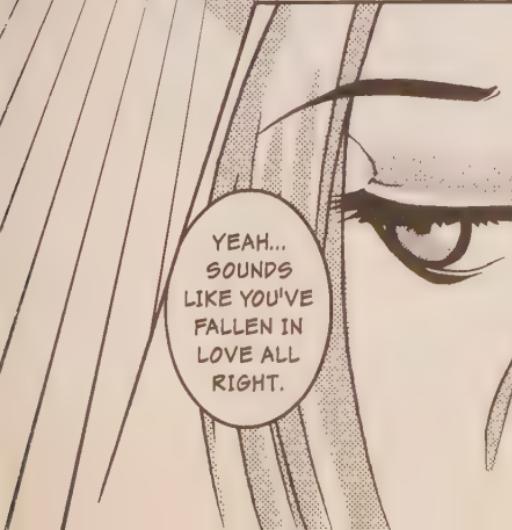
REALLY?



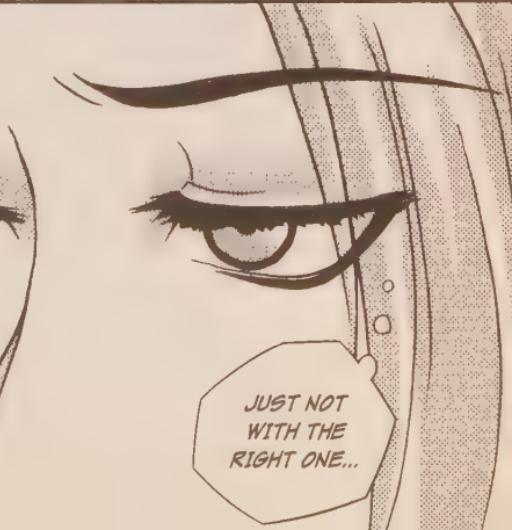
YEAH!



I MEAN, IT'S AMAZING. YOU KNOW LUCI...WE HAVE SO MUCH IN COMMON--I NEVER THOUGHT I'D MEET ANYONE LIKE HER.



YEAH... SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE FALLEN IN LOVE ALL RIGHT.



JUST NOT WITH THE RIGHT ONE...



REALLY?!



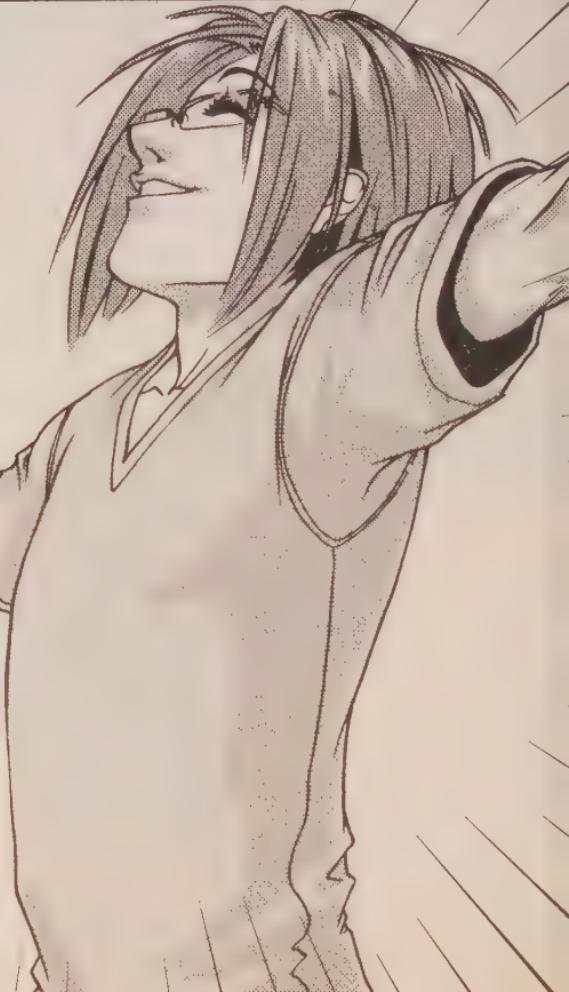
DO YOU
REALLY
THINK
SO?!

OH, WOW!
THIS IS
GREAT!

I NEED TO
CALL HER...
MAYBE ASK
HER OUT FOR
DINNER AFTER
HER SHOW'S
OPENING
NIGHT!

WHAT?

RIGHT
NOW?



AMEYA!
WAIT!

THANK YOU
SO MUCH, MS.
CHACHA!

IF IT
HADN'T
BEEN
FOR
YOU...

...I WOULD
NEVER HAVE
REALIZED HOW
IMPORTANT
SHE IS TO ME!

HELLO?

LUCI? IT'S
AMEYA.

PRETTY
GOOD, AND
YOU?

OH
GOD...

I'M
SUCH A
FOOL.

UM...

I WAS
WONDERING IF
YOU'D LIKE TO
JOIN ME FOR
DINNER AFTER
THE SHOW
TOMORROW
NIGHT?

REALLY?
GREAT!

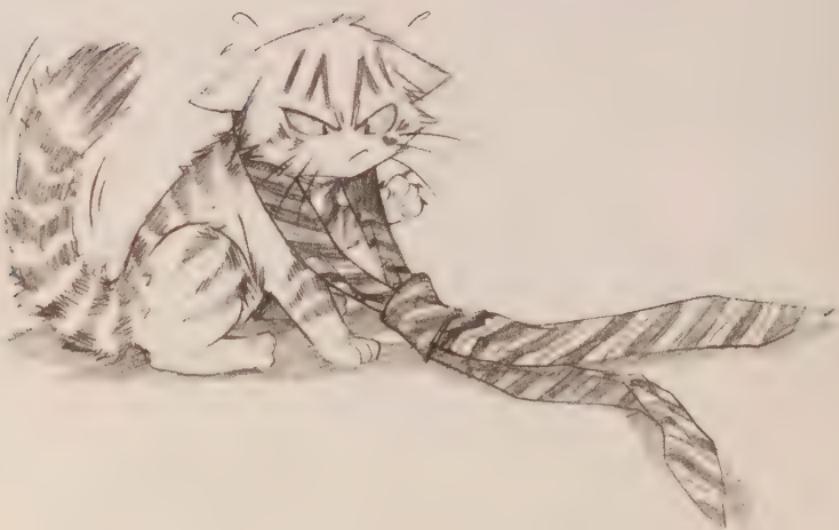
THEN I'LL SEE
YOU FIRST THING
IN THE MORNING
TO HELP SET UP!

TAKE
CARE!

BYE!

CHAPTER 5





STUDIO
73

STUDIO 73
presents

New up and coming
Photographer

LUCI
EHORN

Now Showing
Oct. 3- Nov. 4th
10pm-6pm
Mon. thru Sat.





IS
EVERYTHING
ALL SET?



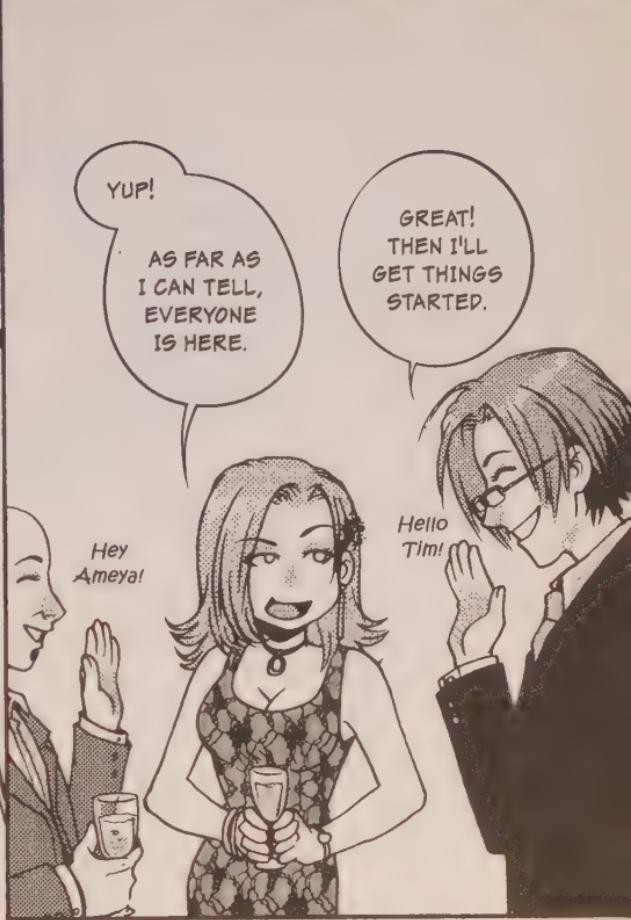
YUP!

AS FAR AS
I CAN TELL,
EVERYONE
IS HERE.

GREAT!
THEN I'LL
GET THINGS
STARTED.

Hey
Ameya!

Hello
Tim!



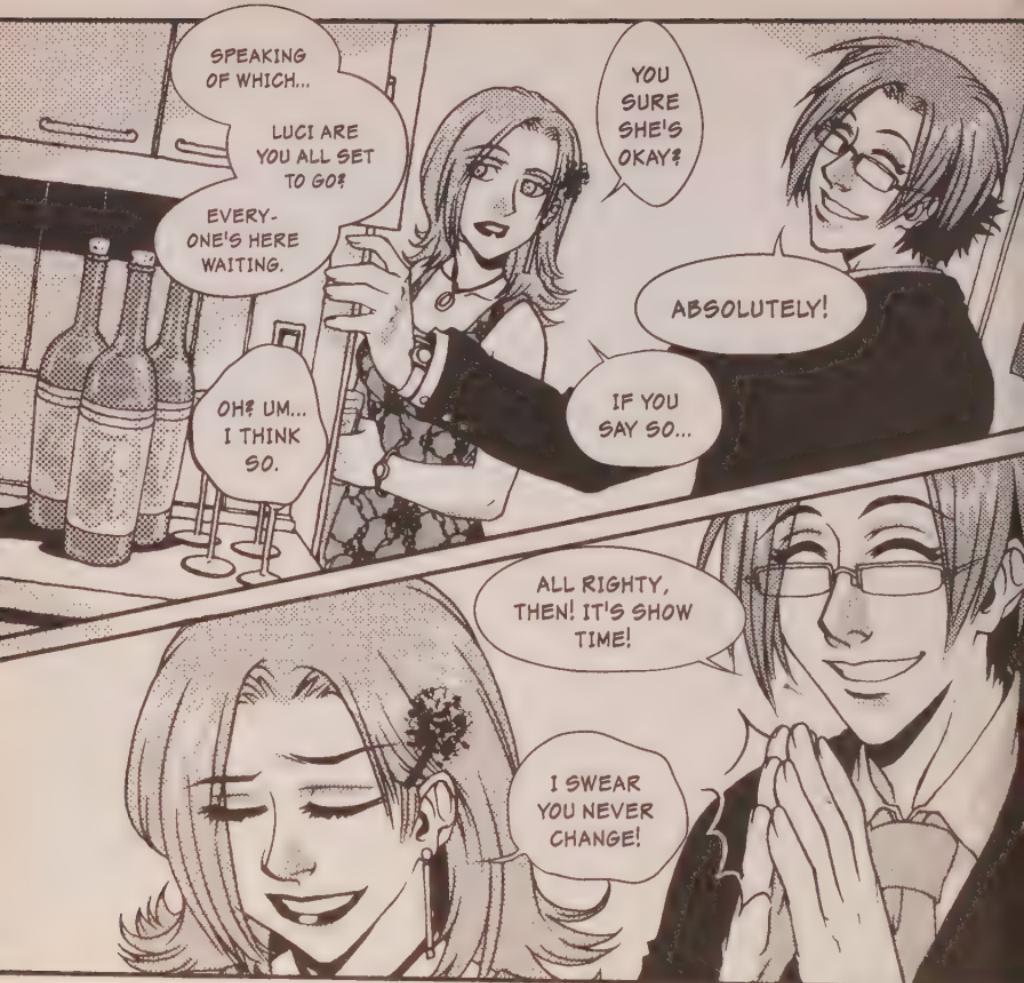
HOW'S LUCI
DOING?

IS HER STOMACH
BETTER NOW?

YEAH...I GAVE HER
SOMETHING FOR
HER NERVES.

SHE'LL
BE FINE.





MAY I
PRESENT
TO YOU...

MISS
LUCI!

UM...

HI! THANK
YOU FOR
COMING!

CONGRATULATIONS,
LUCI!

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!

WOW!

WHAT A
LOVELY LITTLE
RESTAURANT,
AMEYA!

GiGi's
Cuisine

ISN'T
IT?

MUM AND DAD
USED TO TAKE
ME HERE FOR
MY BIRTHDAY
WHEN I WAS
YOUNG.

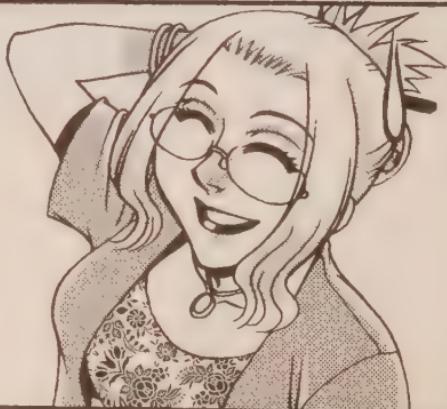
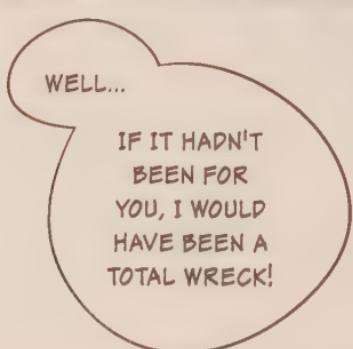
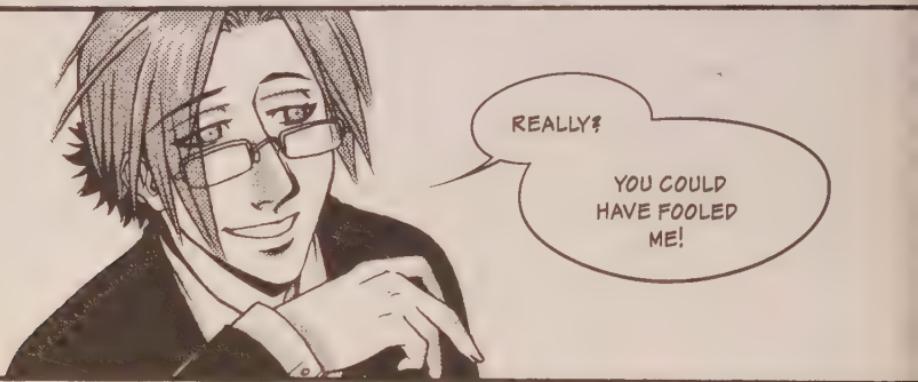
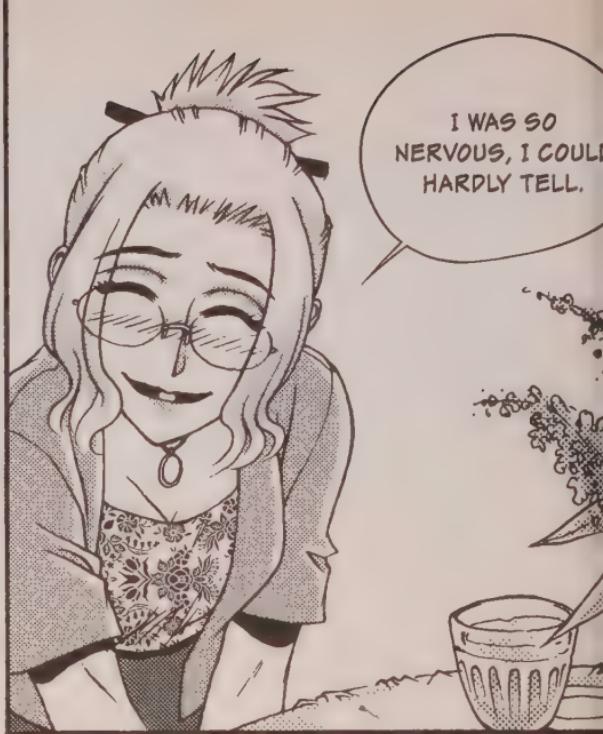
EHEH...WHY
DOES THAT NOT
SURPRISE ME?

ARE YOU
READY TO
ORDER?

OH! AH...
YES!

I'D LIKE
THE CHICKEN
PARMESAN
WITH A HOUSE
SIDE SALAD
PLEASE.

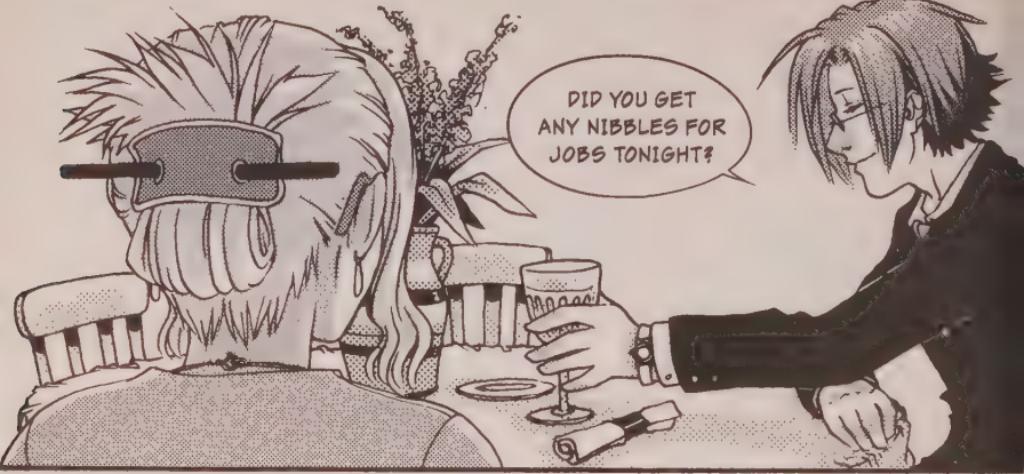


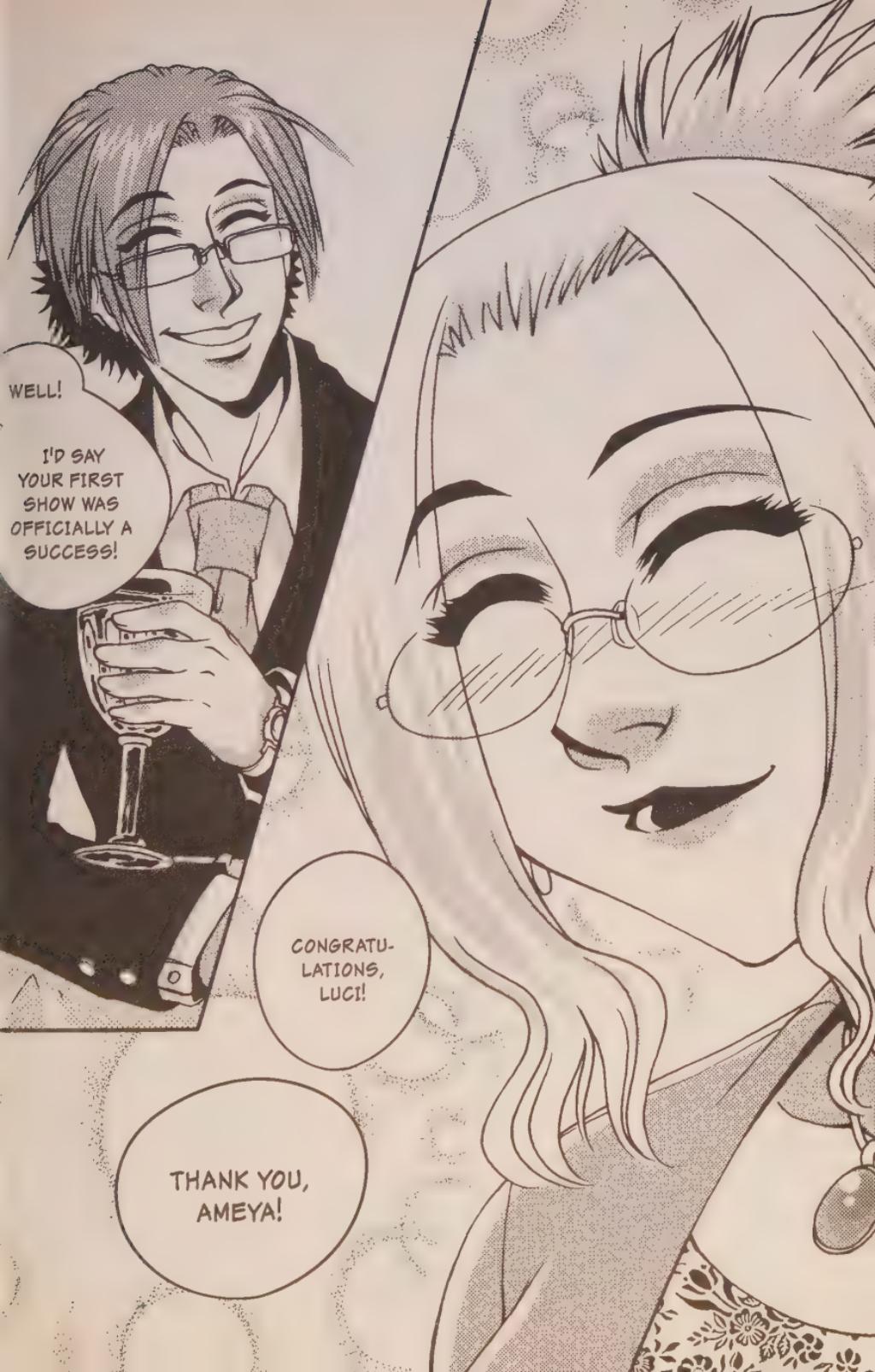




WELL, IT'S A GOOD
THING YOU LEFT
CALLI HOME AND I
LOCKED LOKI UP IN
THE APARTMENT.

HAH HA! YEAH!
I CAN'T IMAGINE
WHAT THEY WOULD
HAVE THOUGHT
OF THOSE
CROWDS.







LUCI...

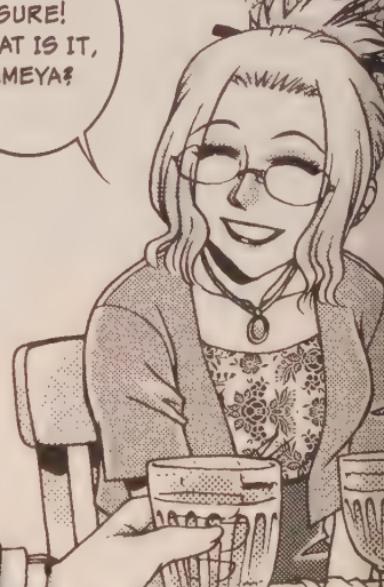
CAN I...

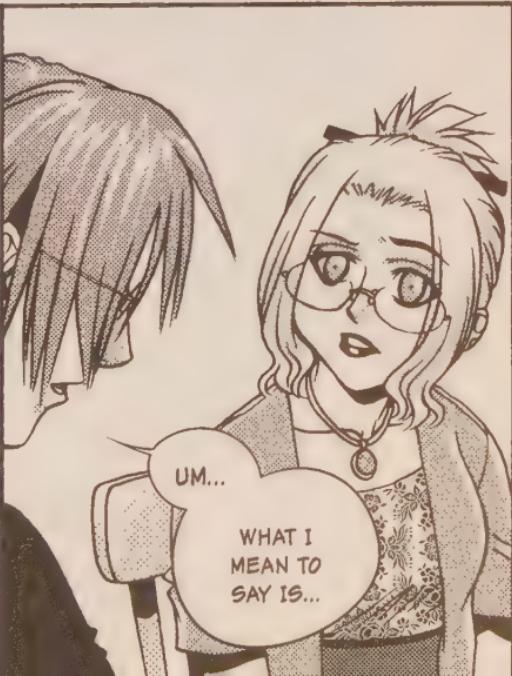
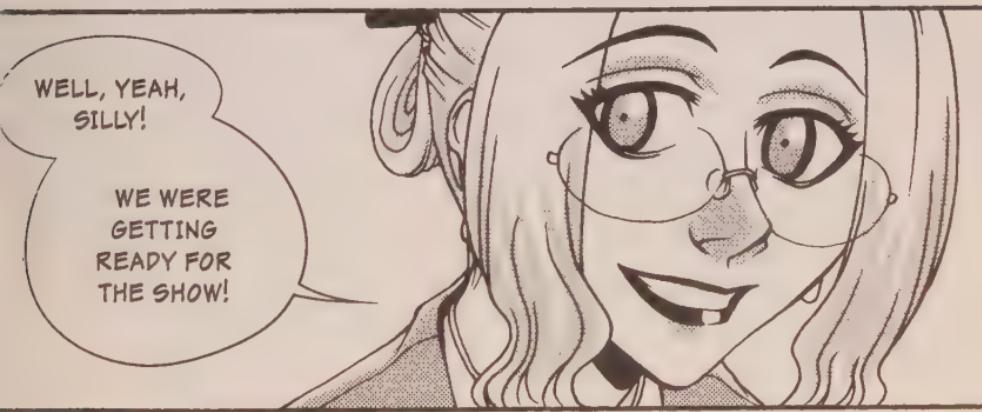
CAN I ASK YOU
SOMETHING?



SURE!
WHAT IS IT,
AMEYA?

WELL...
I'VE BEEN
DOING SOME
THINKING,
AND...







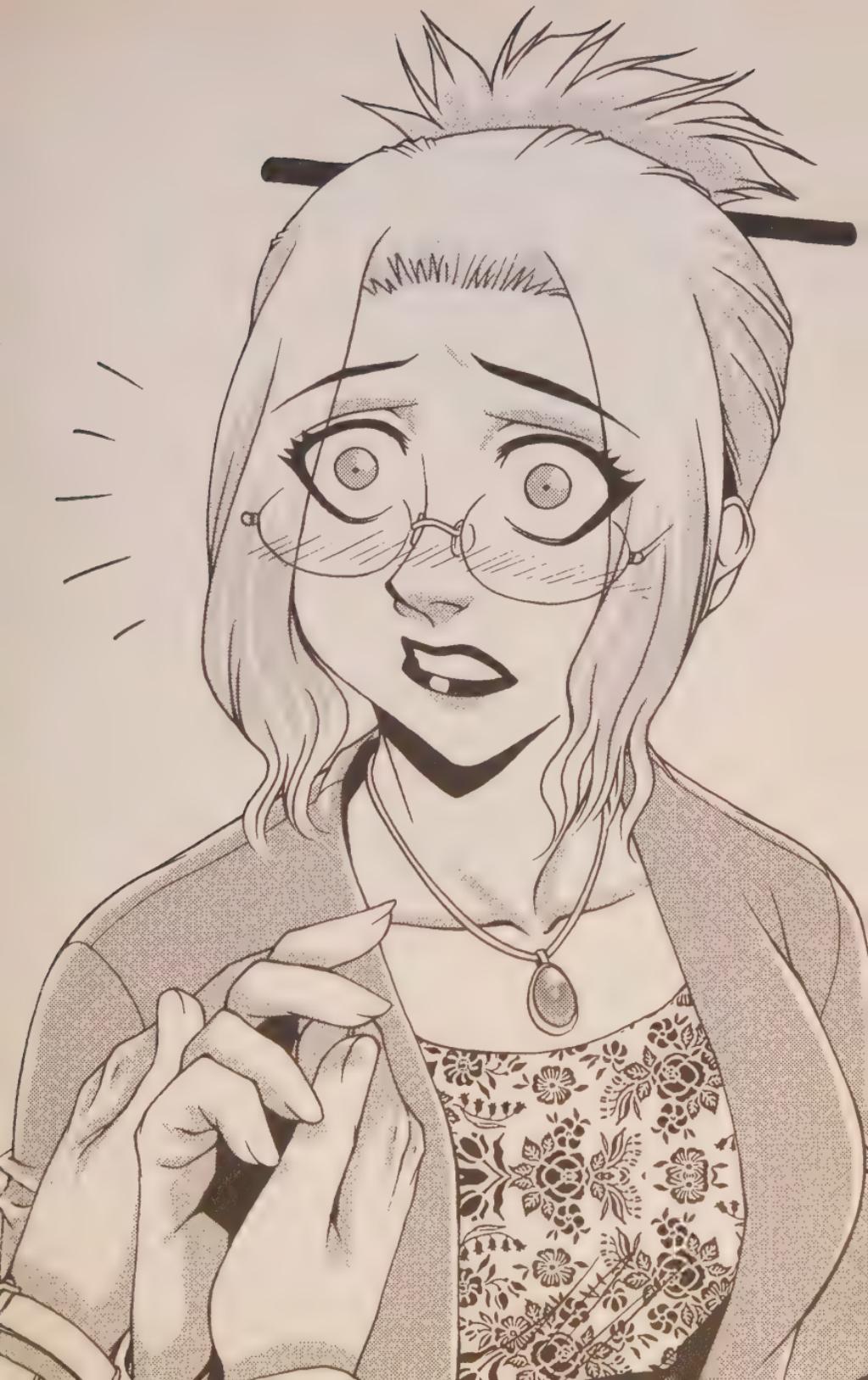
LUCI...

HUH?

...WILL
YOU...

WILL YOU
PLEASE
GO OUT
WITH ME!?





STOP
SULKING,
YOU BIG
BABY!

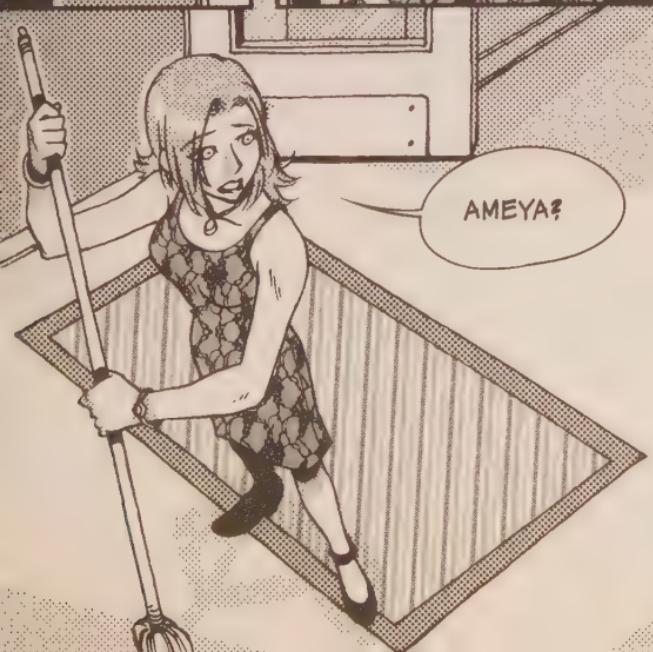
JUST BECAUSE
HE DIDN'T LET YOU
OUT DURING THE
SHOW DOESN'T
MEAN YOU HAVE TO
BE MAD AT ME!

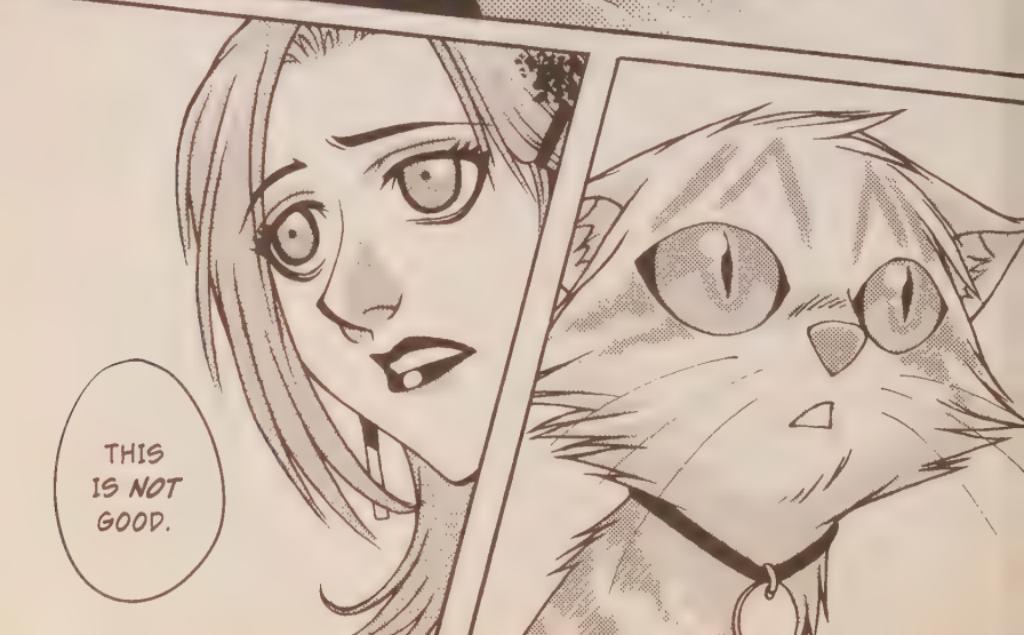
IT'S BAD
ENOUGH I'M
STUCK HERE
CLEANING...

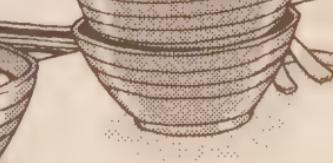
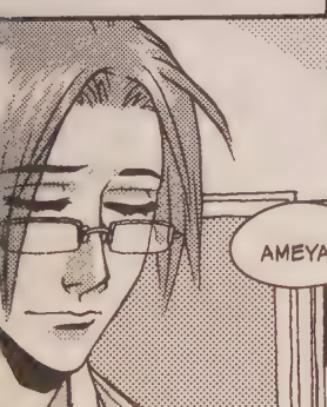
AGAIN...

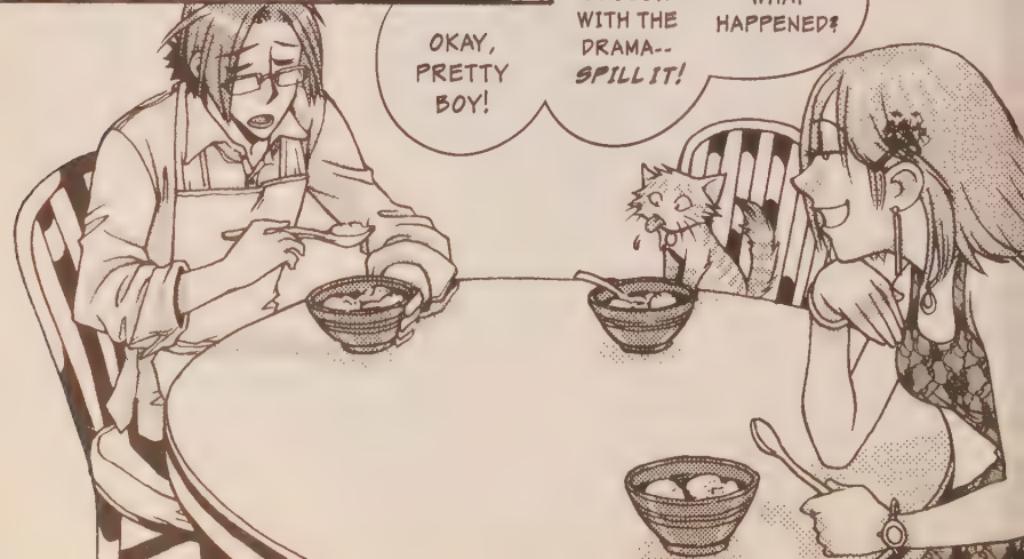
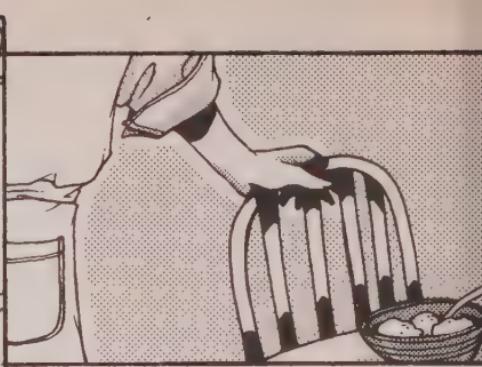
WHILE
LOVERBOY
IS OUT ON
HIS DATE!

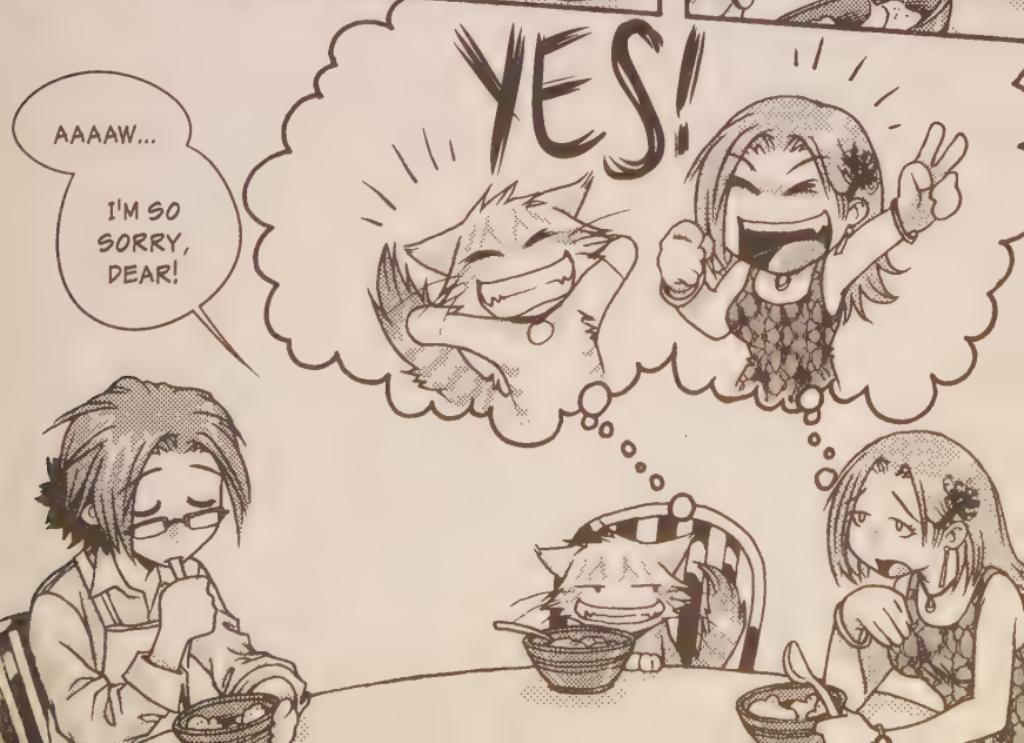
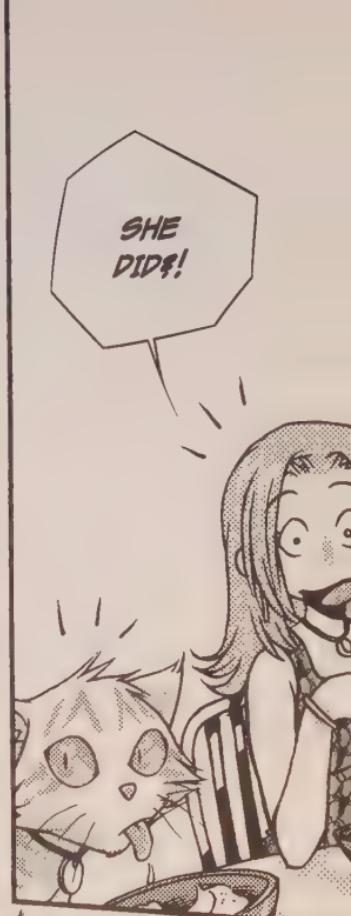
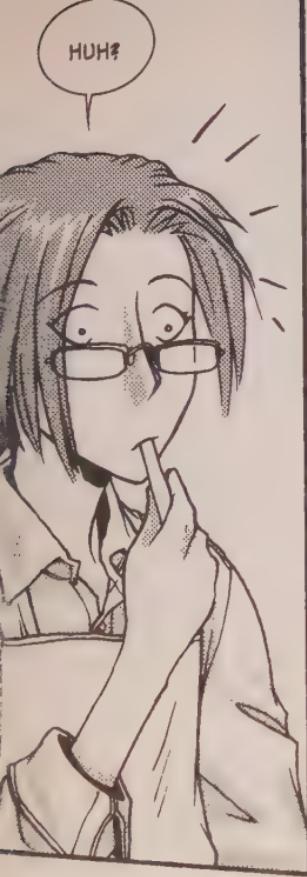
REALLY,
NOW...

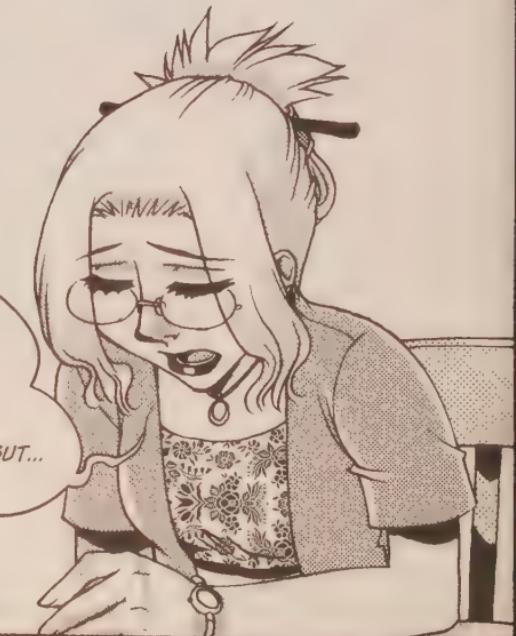
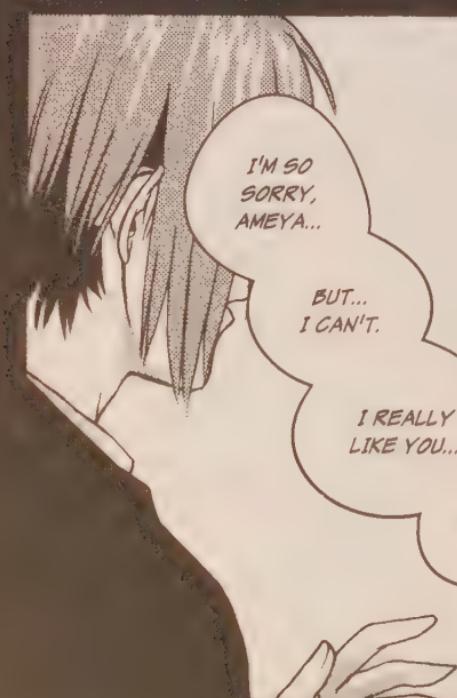


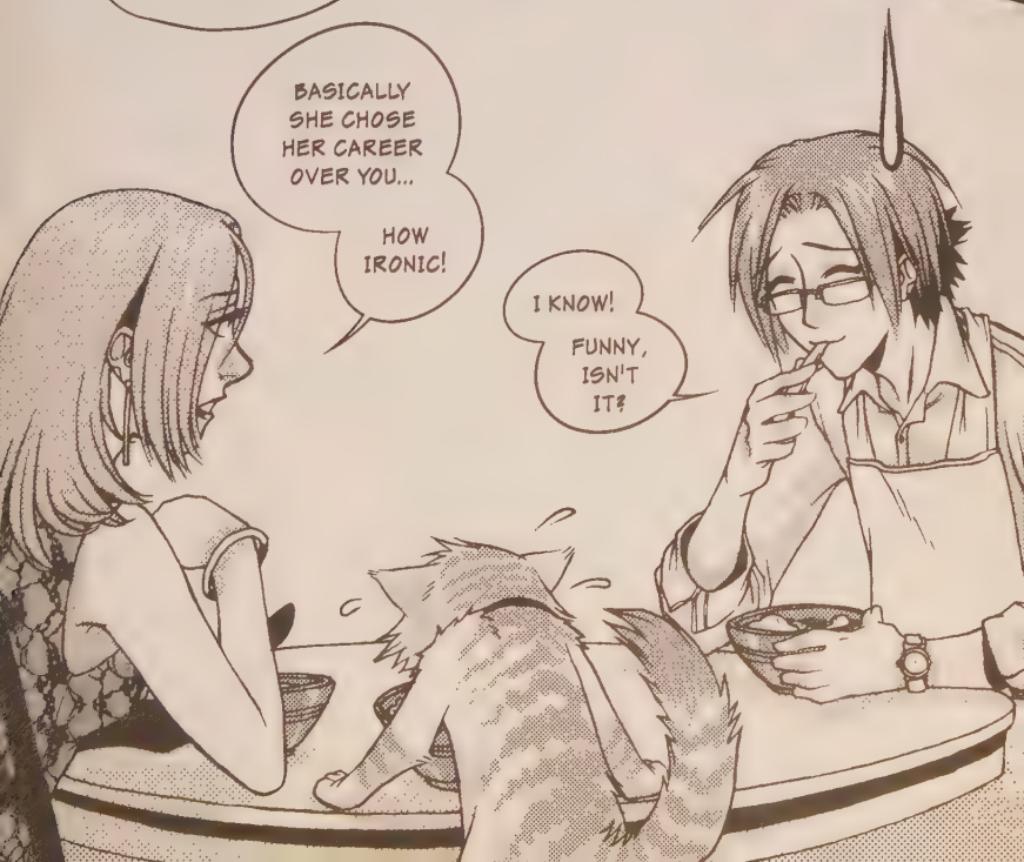


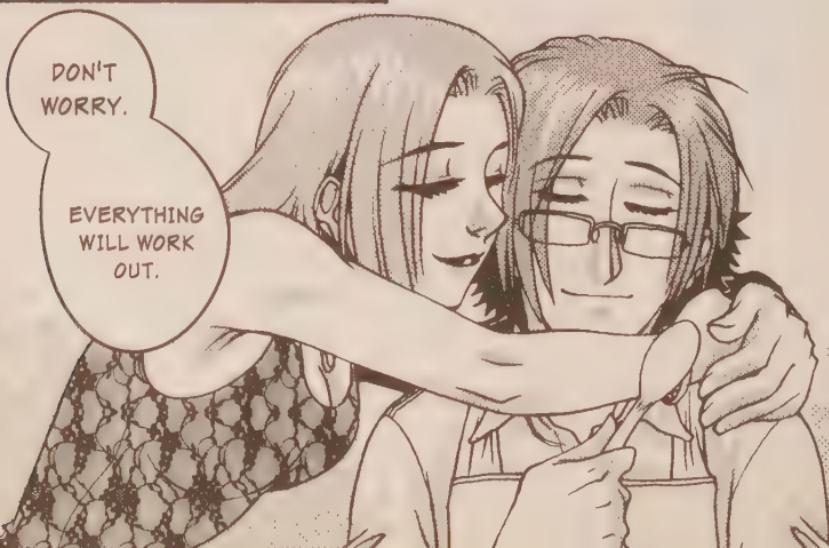
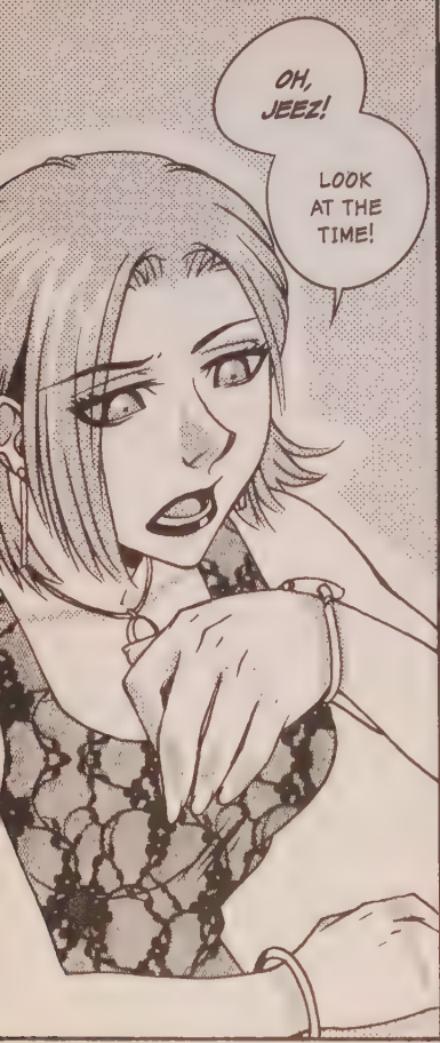


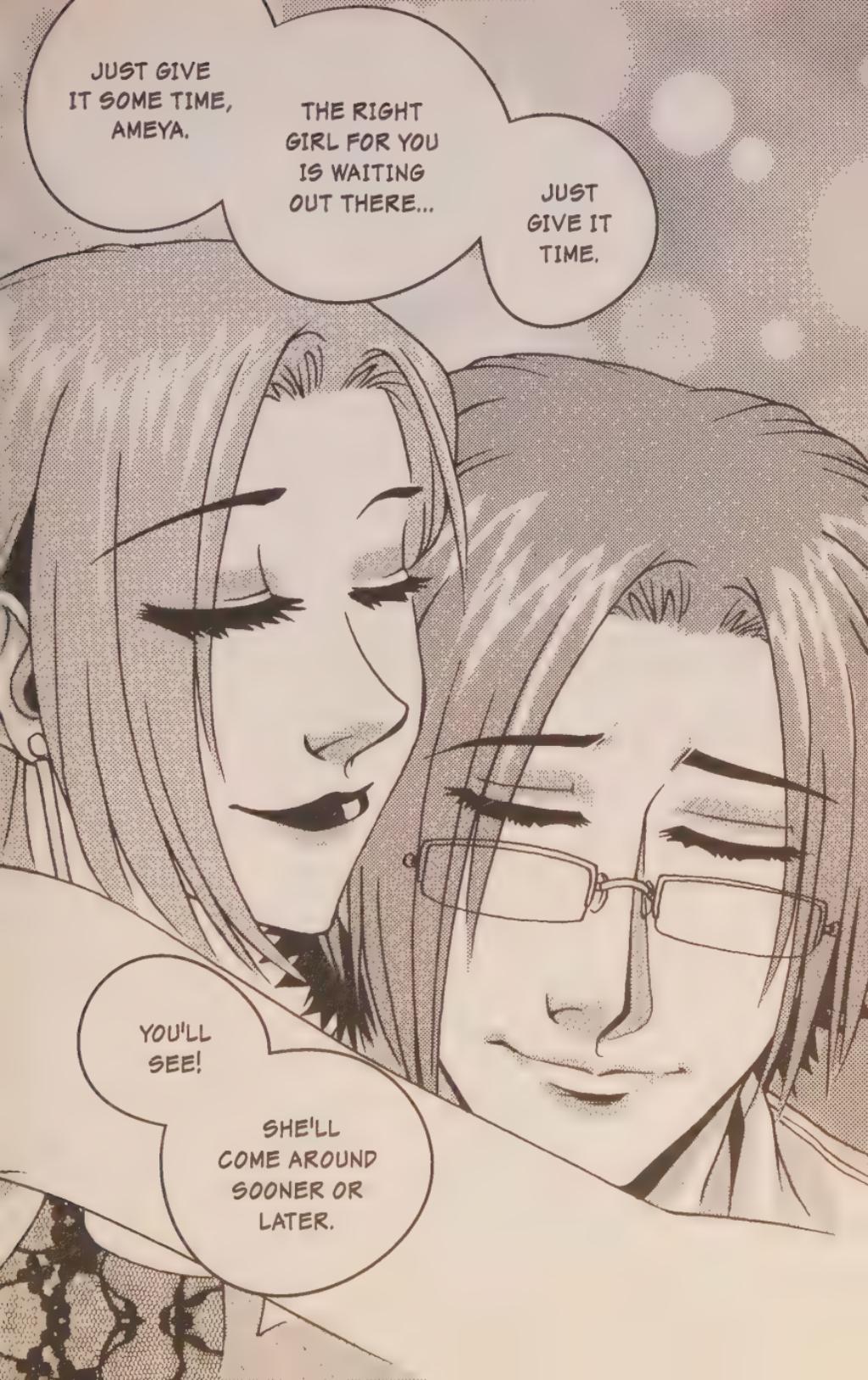












JUST GIVE
IT SOME TIME,
AMEYA.

THE RIGHT
GIRL FOR YOU
IS WAITING
OUT THERE...

JUST
GIVE IT
TIME.

YOU'LL
SEE!

SHE'LL
COME AROUND
SOONER OR
LATER.

YOU
NEVER
KNOW.

SHE COULD
BE RIGHT
THERE UNDER
YOUR NOSE.

LATER,
DEAR!

UM...

AH...

BYE,
MS. CHACHA...

HMM...
RIGHT UNDER
MY NOSE?

I WONDER
WHAT SHE
MEANT BY
THAT...

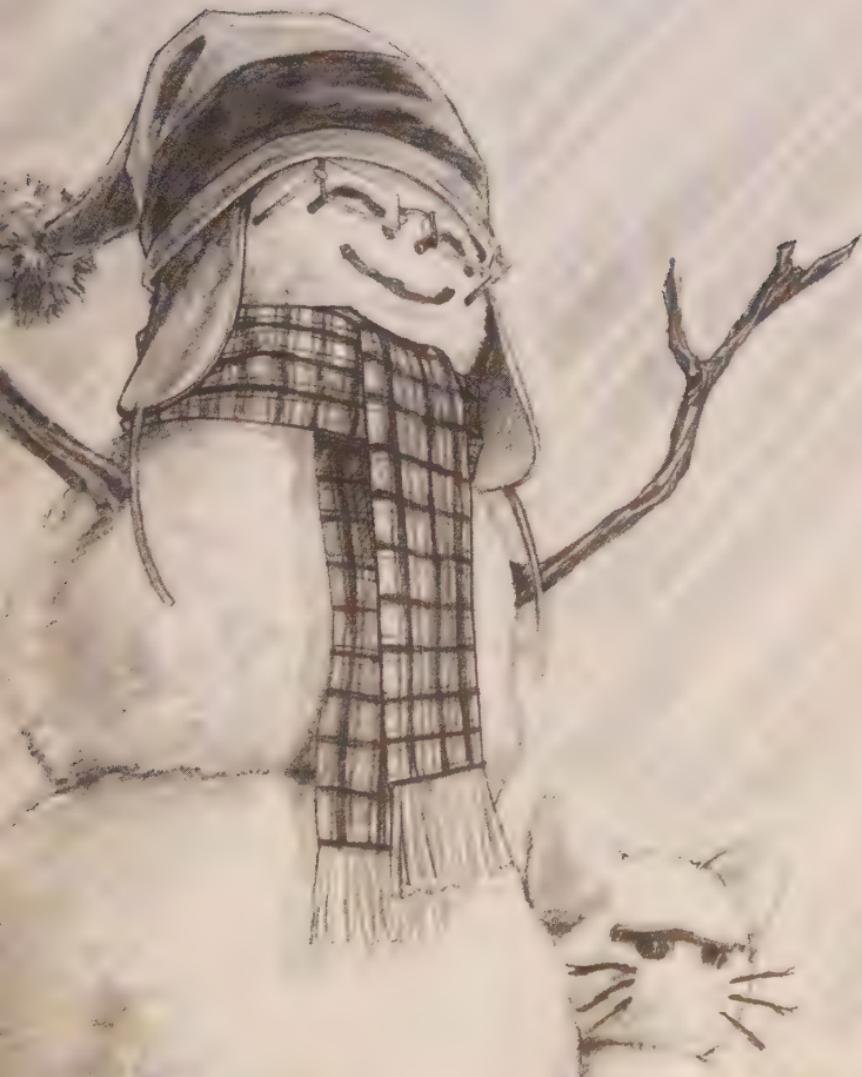
ARE YOU
KIDDING
ME!?

THIS IS
PATHETIC!

OH WELL! I'LL
FIGURE IT
OUT LATER.

HOPELESS...
COMPLETELY
HOPELESS!

CHAPTER 6









OH
COME ON,
LOKI!



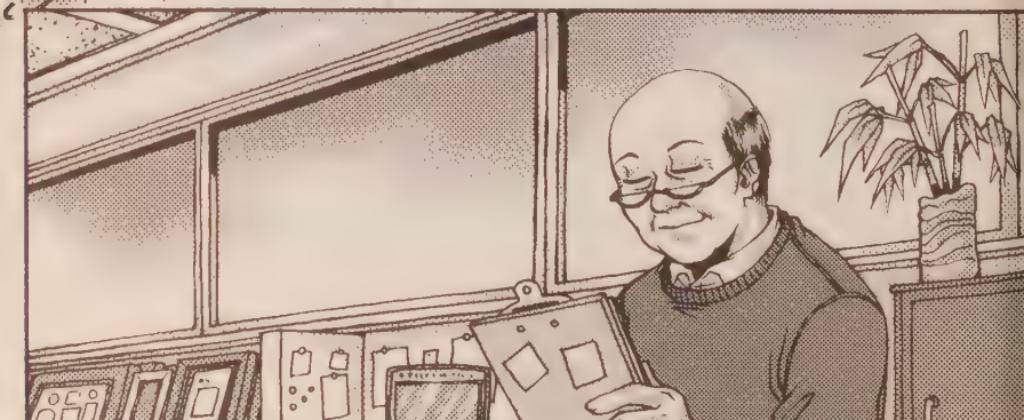
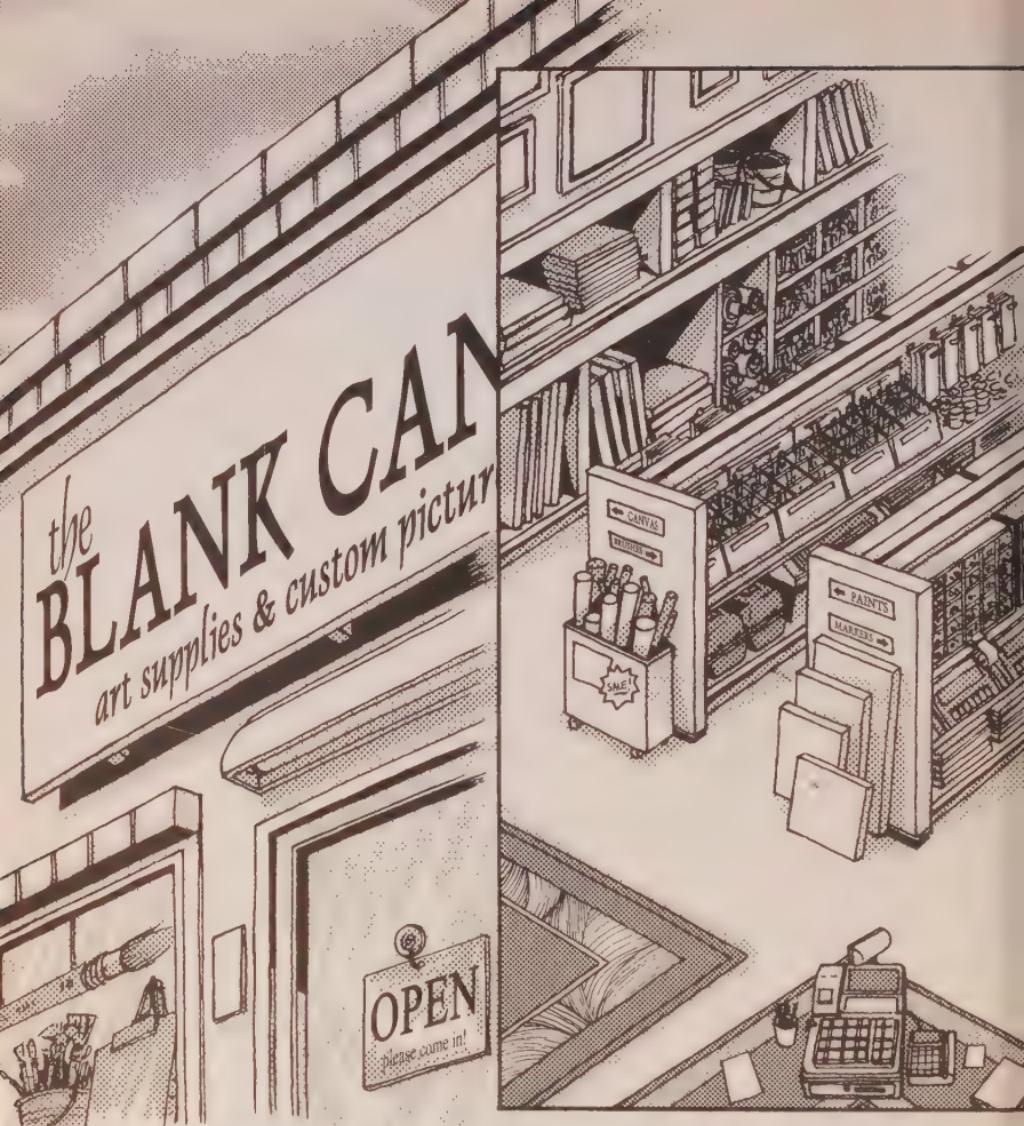
A LITTLE
FRESH
AIR WON'T
HURT YOU!

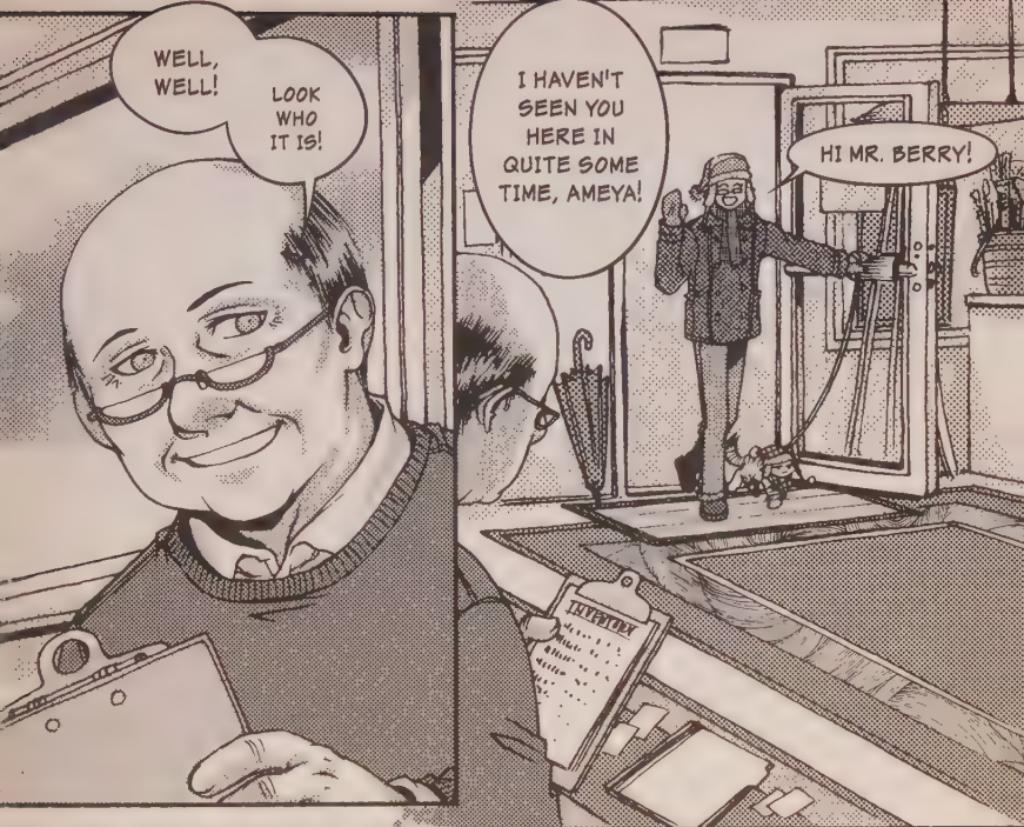


MAYBE IF YOU'RE
ESPECIALLY WELL
BEHAVED, I'LL GET
YOU A TREAT ON
THE WAY HOME!



AND AWAY
WE GO!





OH! THAT'S
LOKI. HE'S
A STRAY I
PICKED UP
BACK IN THE
SPRING.

OH
REALLY?

KIND OF
AN ORNERY
LOOKIN' FELLA,
ISN'T HE?

NOT
REALLY...

HE'S JUST A
LITTLE UPSET
THAT I DRAGGED
HIM OUT IN
THE SNOW
TO SHOP.

CAN'T
SAY THAT I
BLAME HIM,
THOUGH...

WITH THIS
WHOLE STORM
COMING AND
WHATNOT. MY
OLD BONES ARE
COMPLAINING,
TOO!



OH COME ON,
MR. BERRY!
YOU'RE NOT
THAT OLD!



OLD ENOUGH
TO RETIRE THE
YEAR AFTER YOU
GRADUATED!



ALTHOUGH, THEN
I JUST STARTED
WORKING HERE
AT THE SHOP
FULL-TIME.



AH YES!

HIGH SCHOOL
ART CLASS.

WHAT FOND
MEMORIES.



YOU WERE
ALWAYS
ONE OF MY
FAVORITES,
YOU KNOW.

REALLY?



YUP! I DON'T
THINK I'VE EVER
HAD SUCH A
PASSIONATE AND
SUCCESSFUL
STUDENT.



AAAWW...STOP IT,
MR. BERRY. YOU'RE
EMBARRASSING ME!

WHY SHOULD I?

INVENTORY

YOU SHOULD
BE AS PROUD
OF YOUR
SUCCESS
AS I AM.

I AM
PROUD
OF IT...
JUST...

NOT WHEN
IT COSTS ME
SOMETHING
DEAR.

YOU
DON'T
SAY?

AAWW,
I SEE...

I WAS WONDERING
WHY YOU LOOKED
DIFFERENT.

THERE,
THERE,
BOY.

I KNOW
HOW YOU
FEEL...

I WENT
THROUGH
THE SAME
THING WITH
THE MISSUS
TWO YEARS
AGO...GOD
REST HER
SOUL.

I CLOSED
THE SHOP
FOR MONTHS
BECAUSE...

...I THOUGHT
MY LIFE WAS OVER
WITHOUT HER HERE
WITH ME.

IT WASN'T 'TIL
I REOPENED THE
SHOP THAT I FELT
WHOLE AGAIN.

KEEPING THE
SHOP IN HER
MEMORY IS LIKE
HAVING HER
BACK WITH
ME AGAIN!

BEST
THERAPY
FOR GRIEF
I'VE EVER
HAD.
I HIGHLY
RECOMMEND
IT!

BLANK CANVAS
art supplies & custom picture framing

TELL YOU
WHAT!

GRAB A BASKET,
FILL IT WITH
WHATEVER YOU
NEED AND GRAB
THE LARGEST
CANVAS BACK
THERE.

WHAT?

IT'S ALL
YOURS, ON
THE HOUSE,
ON ONE
CONDITION!

YOU HAVE TO
SELL IT BACK
TO ME ON THE
OPENING GALA
NIGHT!

YUP!

ARE YOU
SERIOUS!

ABSOLUTELY!

NO MATTER
WHAT THE
COST!

WOW, I CAN'T
THANK YOU ENOUGH,
MR. BERRY!

mew!

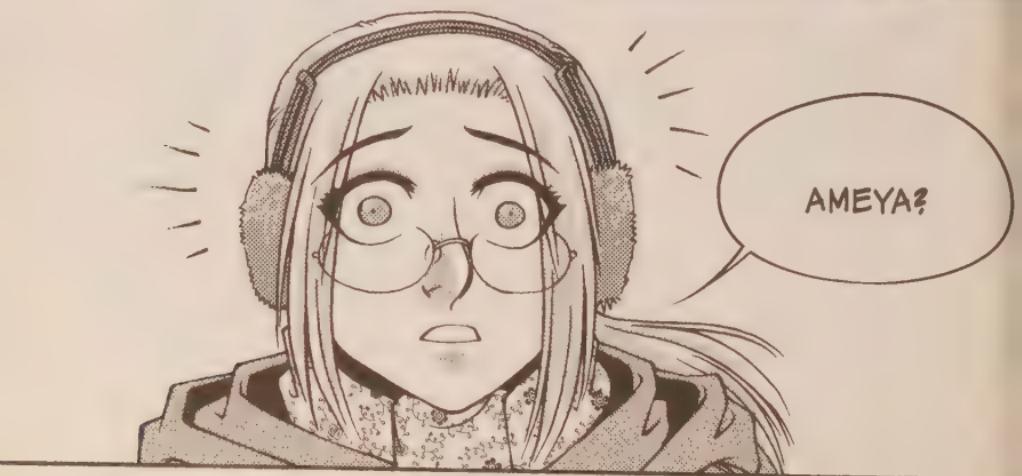
OH
GOD,
NO!

NO! NO! NO!

LOKI?

LOKI!

CALLI!



LUCI?
WHAT'RE
YOU DOING
HERE?

~hehe...

I'M GETTING SOME
DEVELOPER AND
SUPPLIES.

BUT MR. BERRY
DOESN'T SELL
PHOTOGRAPHY
SUPPLIES.

YEAH...

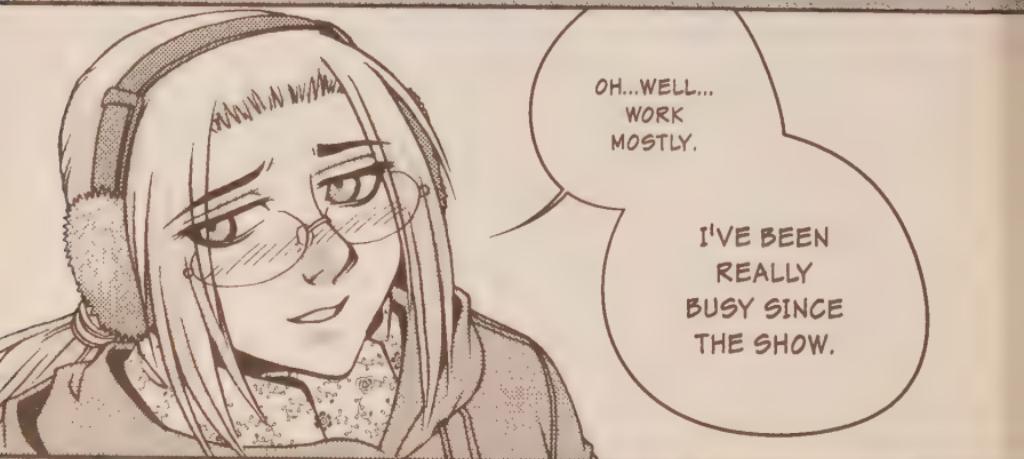
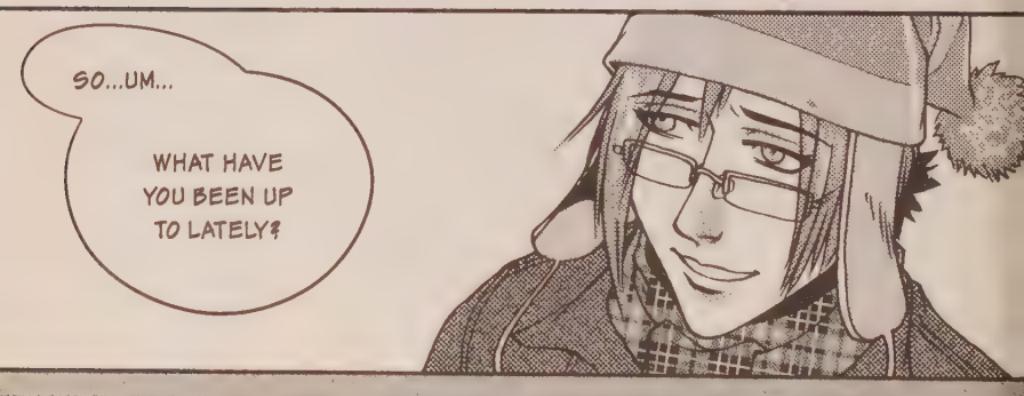
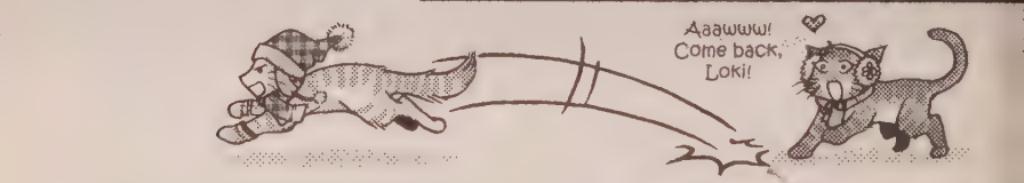
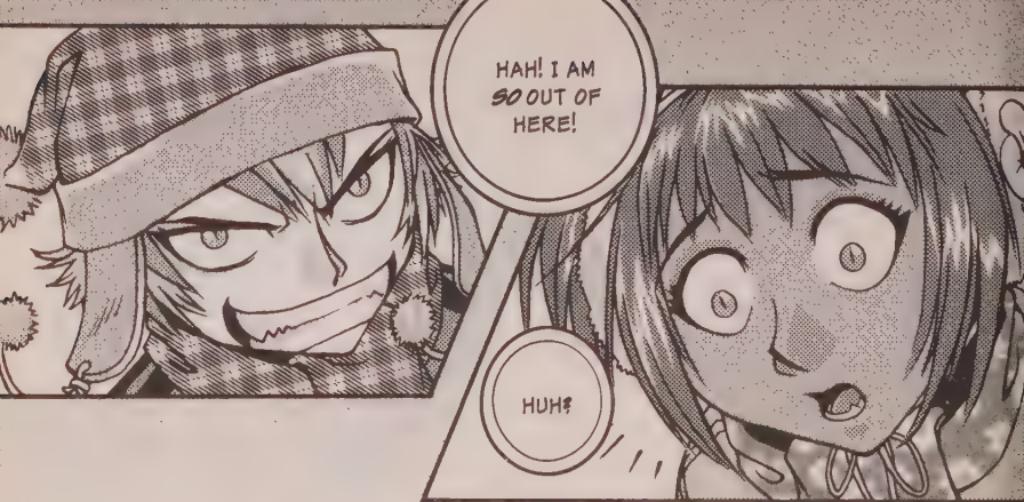
BUT HE
DOES
SPECIAL
ORDER
THEM.

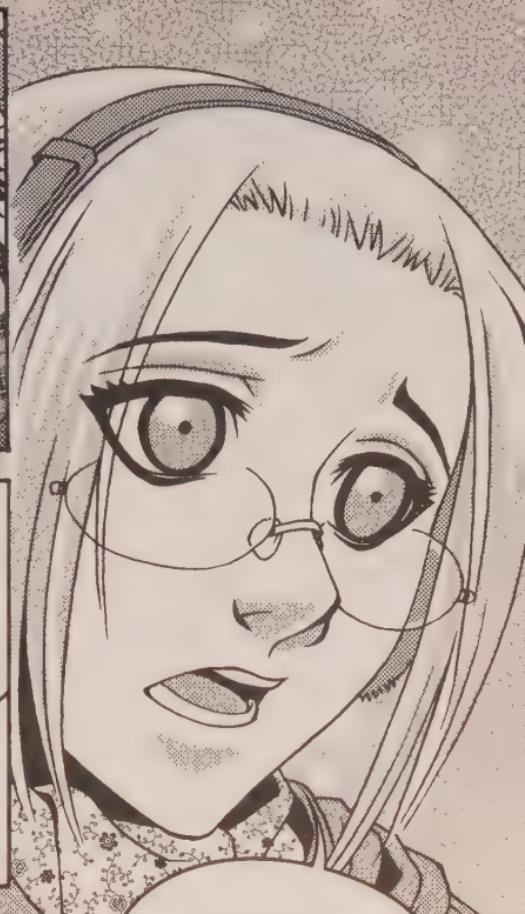
OH.
RIGHT.

HERE YOU
GO, LOKI.

GET
HER
OFF OF
ME!

GO PLAY
FOR A BIT.







I KNOW I HURT YOU
BY CUTTING OFF
OUR FRIENDSHIP
LIKE THAT...BUT...

IT'S OKAY. I
UNDERSTAND.

LUCI...

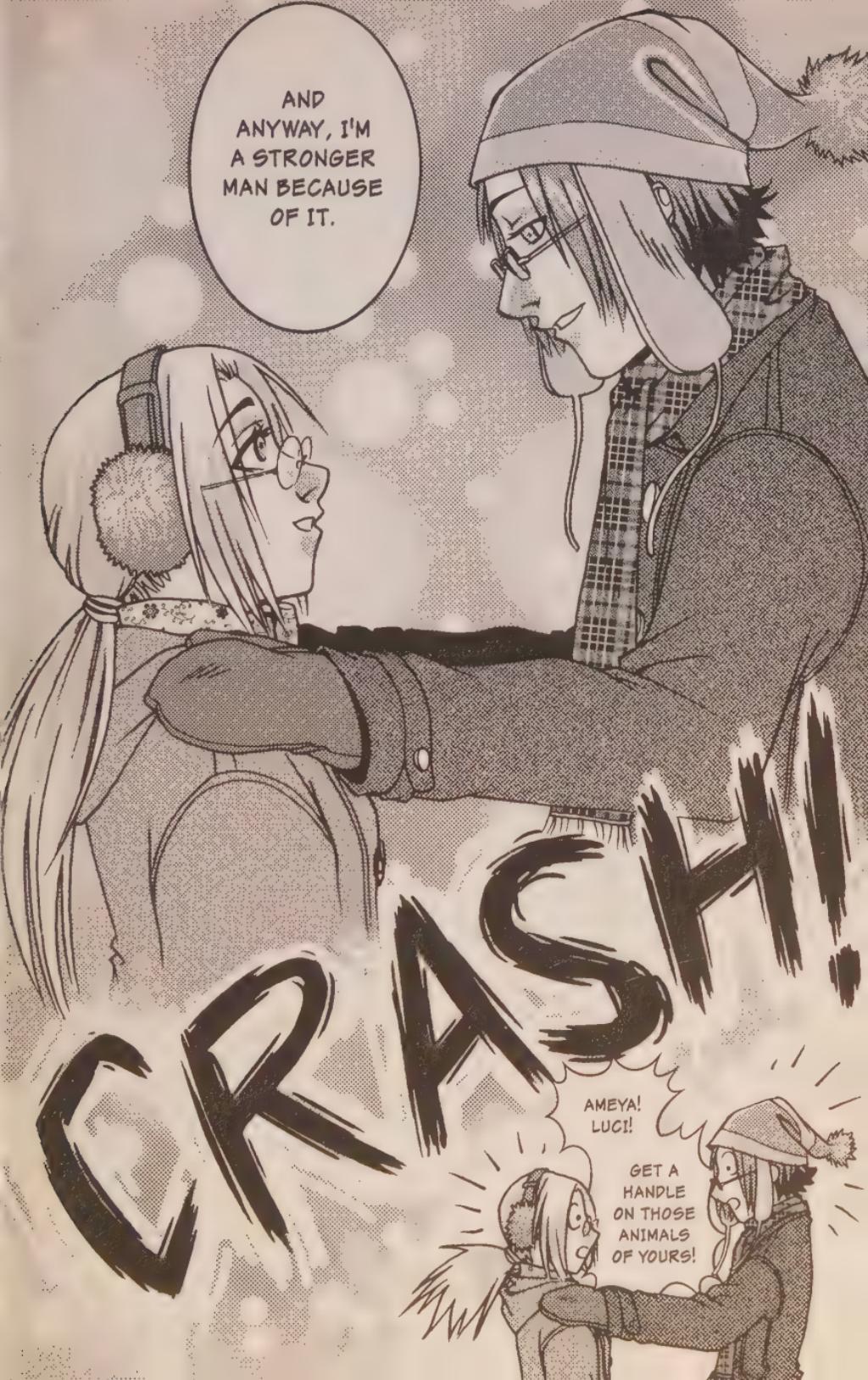
ARE YOU
SURE?

BUT...

DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
IT!

I GOT AHEAD
OF MYSELF.

AND
ANYWAY, I'M
A STRONGER
MAN BECAUSE
OF IT.





WE SHOULD
REALLY GET
GOING.

YEAH.
SAME
HERE.

COME ON,
GIRL. TIME
TO GO!

WELL, IT
WAS NICE
SEEING
YOU AGAIN,
AMEYA.

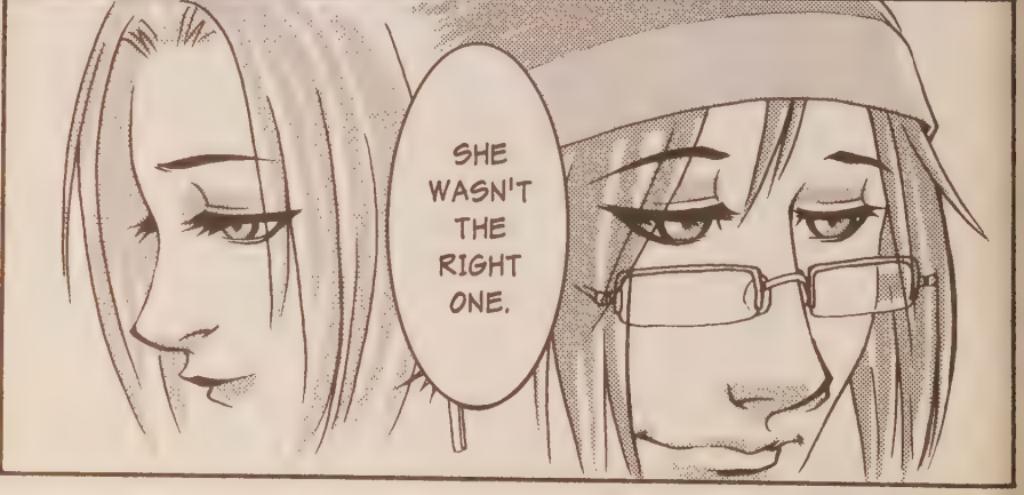
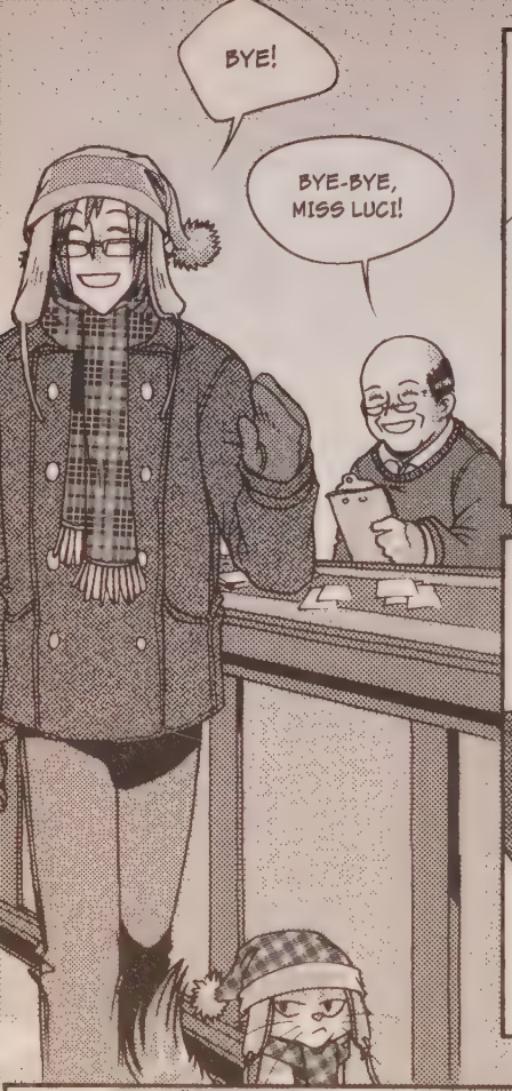
BYE,
LOKI!
SEE YOU
LATER!

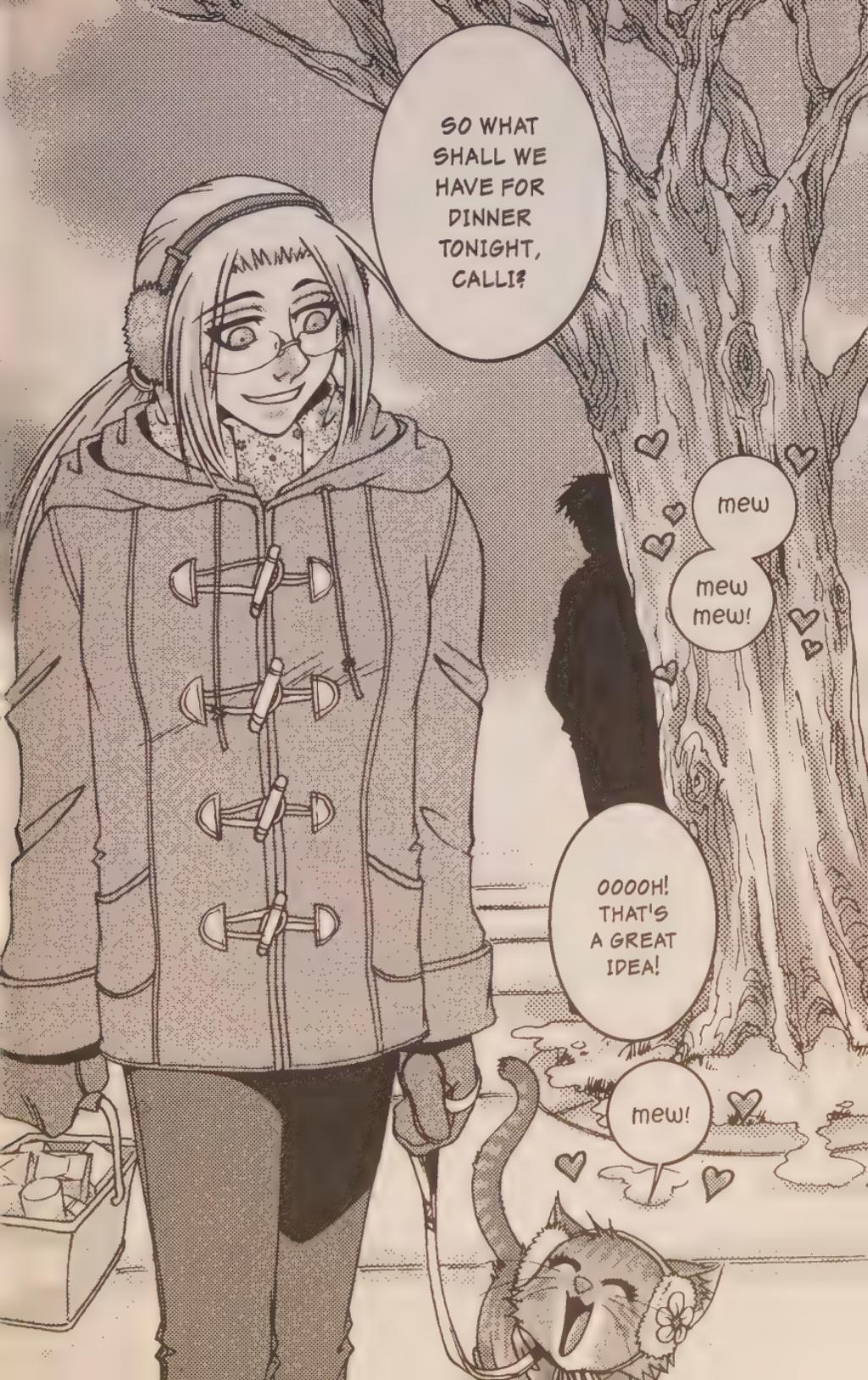
THANK YOU,
MR. BERRY,
FOR ALL
THE HELP.

BYE-
BYE!

mew!







SO WHAT
SHALL WE
HAVE FOR
DINNER
TONIGHT,
CALLI?

OOOOH!
THAT'S
A GREAT
IDEA!

mew!

mew
mew mew!



AND FOR
DESSERT...
ICE CREAM!

mew!



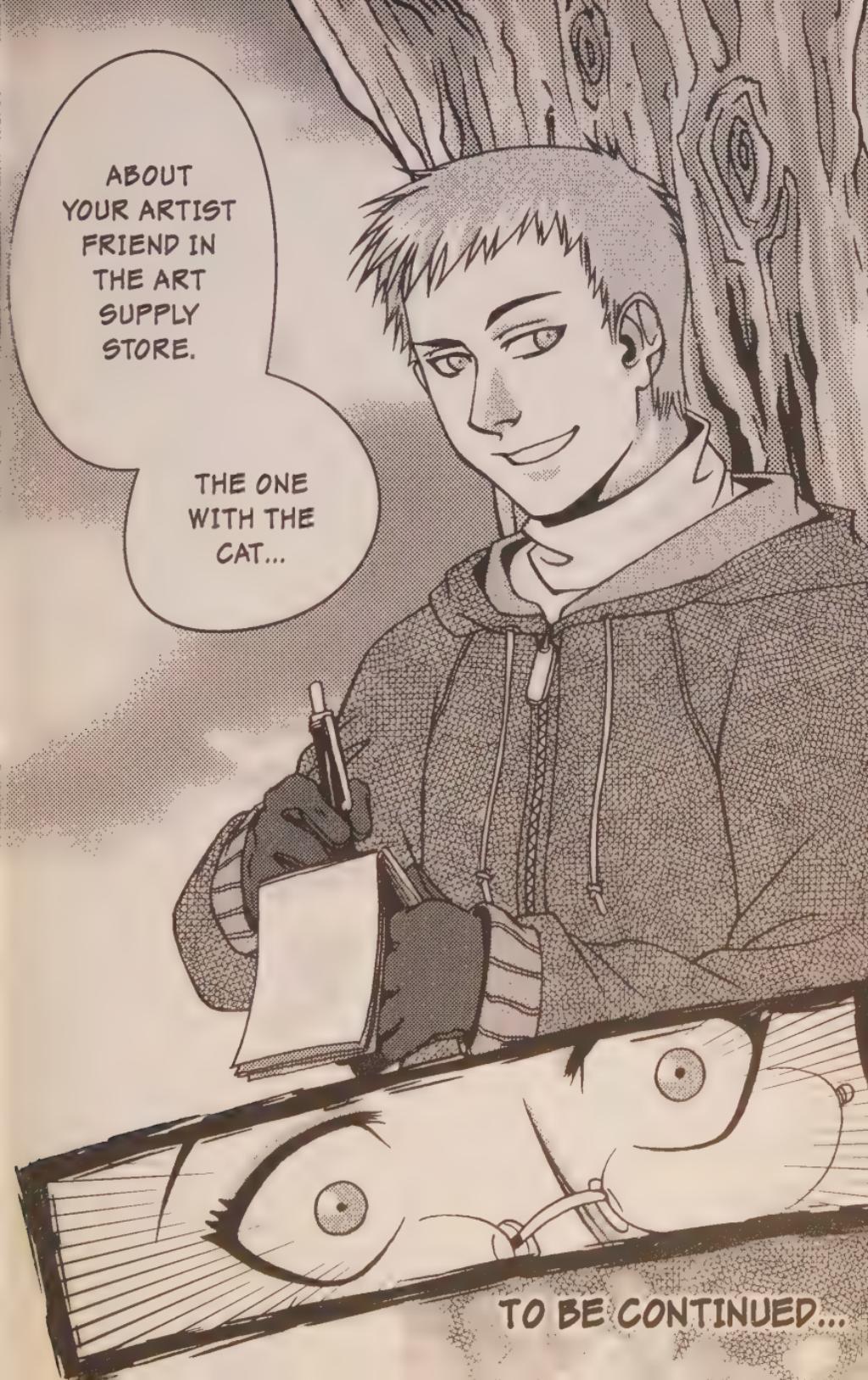
EXCUSE
ME, MISS!



I WAS
WONDERING
IF YOU COULD
ANSWER A FEW
QUESTIONS
FOR ME.

QUESTIONS?

ABOUT
WHAT?



ABOUT
YOUR ARTIST
FRIEND IN
THE ART
SUPPLY
STORE.

THE ONE
WITH THE
CAT...

TO BE CONTINUED...



My Cat Loki vol. 3 preview:

In the final volume of My Cat Loki, the fragile friendship between Ameya and Loki will be put to the test! Ameya has finally regained his artistic

inspiration (thanks to Loki's cranky presence), but he's still busy sorting out his feelings in between all the chaos. And of course, he is totally unprepared when Loki's former owners suddenly reappear! A fight over whom Loki truly belongs to is about to begin, but losing Loki might just be the end for Ameya...

Notes from the Drawing Board



HUZZAH! HUZZAH! HUZZAH!

WELL! Here we are again! The end of another volume of My Cat Loki...and let me tell you...it's been QUITE a ride! Looking back, I'd like to think I've grown as a comicbook artist with the creation of this volume, as I've noticed many improvements in my techniques along the way! ^_^ Again, I'm proud of my accomplishments with the completion of this volume. I still can't believe it! TWO WHOLE BOOKS under my belt now! SERIOUSLY! That's a WHOLE lotta work and am VERY happy that I've made it this far!

Now...only ONE volume to go...and it'll be the BEST by FAR! XD I am DEFINITELY looking forward to working on it! ^_^ But before I do that, I cannot forget to acknowledge all those who have had their part in helping make this book possible! ^_~

LILLIAN ~ You continue to be the BESTEST EDITOR EVER! Am SO honoured to be working under your guidance, kindness and patience. I honestly don't think I'd have made it this far if it weren't for your constant encouragement and support! ^_~ *BIG LOVIN HUGS!!*

FRIENDS ~ Both on and off line, for continuing to be there for me thru the thick and thin, again, I seriously can't thank you enough! *BIG LOVIN' HUGS TO ALL!*

MY FAMILY ~ For continuing to believe in my dream to become what I am today, supporting my accomplishments and still help to provide a roof over my head and food for sustenance. Yes, I WILL eventually move out of the house...in the meantime, I'm really learning how to cook well, aren't I?!! .D

THE FANS ~ For your continuing support and appreciation of my work. My love and GREAT thanks to you all! ^_~

And last, but certainly NOT least...

My cat Morris- You will always be my inspiration. I dearly miss you, but your place in my life and heart will always remain and never be forgotten.
This story is for you! =^_^-

Lots of love, GREAT appreciation and BIG LOVIN' HUGS,

~Bettina ^_~ ^

LOKI'S SCRATCHING POST

-FANART, FANMAIL AND OTHER FUN STUFFS!-

WELCOME TO THE FAN SECTION OF MY CAT LOKI!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THE FANTASTICALLY WONDERFUL FANART
WE'VE RECEIVED FROM FANS AND FRIENDS ALIKE!

KEEP IT COMING! :D



"I LOVE YOOOU..."
BY KAGAMI

"CURL UP WITH A BOOK"
BY MISTYTANG
MISTYTANG.DEVIAINTART.COM

"PEACE TO SLEEP"
BY REIKO KOBAYASHI

WWW.HYBRIDGENESIS.COM
KOBAYASHI.DEVIAINTART.COM

(REMEMBER AMEYA'S COLLEGE
FRIEND, HEATHER? WELL, THIS IS
THE REAL LIFE ARTIST AND GREAT FRIEND,
HEATHER, WHOM I MODELED
THE CHARACTER AFTER! :D)





TODAY WAS FUN! I HADN'T
BEEN SWIMMING IN FOREVER!

LOKI- CAN YOU
WATCH THIS WHILE
I GO CHANGE?

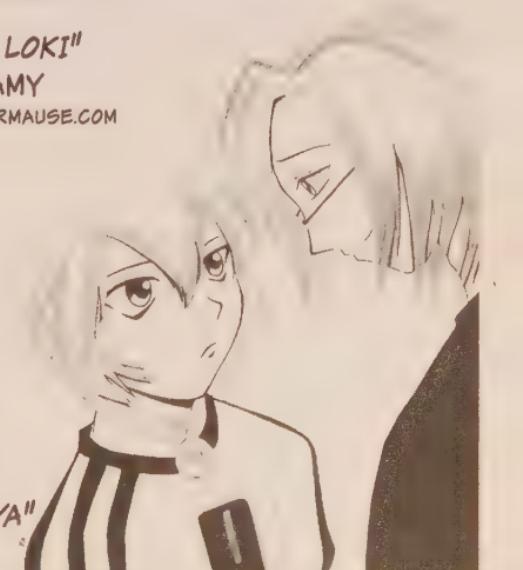


"LOKI MEETS DUCKIE FLOATY"

BY PUDDLE
MIZUTAMARI.DEVIAUT.COM

"MS. CHACHA AND LOKI"

BY MARY BELLAMY
ZORILITA.BITTERMAUSE.COM



"HUMAN LOKI AND AMEYA"

BY KAGAMI





"HUMAN LOKI"
BY MANACHAN



"MS. CHACHA"
BY LYNNWOOD
LYNNWOOD.DEVIAINTART.COM



"LOKI AND KITTEN HUGGLE"
BY J. CHOUINARD
(KITTEN BELONGS TO J. CHOUINARD :D)





"CAT'S CRADLE"

BY HEATHER

'CYBRE'

WASNEUSKI

CYBRE.DEViantART.COM



WELL! THAT'S IT FOR NOW!



"LOKI'S GREAT ESCAPE!"

BY MARY BELLAMY

ZORILITA.BITTERMAUSE.COM

CATCH YOU LATER IN
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Author Bio

Bettina M. Kurkoski

Bettina was born March 26, 1973 in Montague, Massachusetts. Now residing in Plymouth, Mass., she works as a freelance illustrator thru her business, Dreamworld Studio. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth in 1996 with a BFA in Illustration, she entered TOKYOPOP's Rising Stars of Manga 2 competition in 2003, placing as a runner-up, her work *Axis Lumen* published in the winners' compilation. You can see more of her artwork at www.dreamworldstudio.net.

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